Objective

In the framework of the 30th anniversary of the EU’s Jean Monnet Programme, of which it is a beneficiary, ERA is organising a high-level conference to discuss the protection of European values by European law.

After a thorough analysis of the concept of “European values”, successive panels will take a closer look at how European law defends these values against both external and internal threats, and will address the potential conflict between the values protected by EU law on the one hand and national constitutional law on the other.

The conference will take place at the “House of European History”, which is located in the Eastman Building in the Leopold Park, adjacent to the European Parliament building in Brussels.

The conference is free of charge but the number of places is limited.

Who should attend?

EU officials, national civil servants, legal practitioners, citizens
Wednesday, 16 October 2019

09:45 Opening of the conference
Věra Jourová
Themeis Christophidou
Wolfgang Heusel

10:15 Session one: Laying the ground
Keynote speech
What are the common values protected by European law?
Art 2 TEU; the Fundamental Rights enshrined in the Charter; other?
Armin von Bogdandy
Discussion

11:15 Coffee break

11:45 Session two: EU law defending our common values against external attacks
Panel discussion
Moderator: Vassilis Christianos
Jacques Malherbe, Paul Nemitz, Diana Wallis
Suggested topics: Data protection; protection of the responsible consumer; ensuring free and fair trade; democracy: ensuring the freedom of vote; tax havens or tax evasion?

13:15 Lunch break

14:00 Session three: EU law defending our common values against internal threats
Panel discussion
Moderator: Pauliine Koskelo
Katarina Barley, Aileen Donnelly, Max Steinbeis
Suggested topics: Defending the rule of law, basis of mutual trust in judicial cooperation; Art 7 TEU; COM proposal for MFF 2021-2027 with regard to RoL

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Session four: Conflicting values – the case of national identity
Panel discussion
Moderator: Hubert Legal
Ferdinand Kirchhof, Maria José Rangel de Mesquita, Christiaan Timmermans
Suggested topics: Article 4 para. 2 TEU; Taricco II; the Agos saga; the IR judgment (prohibition of discrimination vs autonomy of religious communities)

17:30 Concluding remarks
Jean-Philippe Rageade

17:45 End of conference

Programme may be subject to amendment.

Further information:
www.era.int/?129060&en

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Speakers

Katarina Barley MEP
Vice-President of the European Parliament, Brussels/Strasbourg

Armin von Bogdandy
Professor, Director of the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and Public International Law, Heidelberg

Vassilis Christianos
Professor emeritus, Law School, University of Athens - Of Counsel at Christianos & Partners Law Firm

Themeis Christophidou
Director General, DG Education and Culture, European Commission, Brussels

Justice Aileen Donnelly
Court of Appeal, Dublin

Wolfgang Heusel
Director, Academy of European Law (ERA), Trier

Věra Jourová (tbc)
Member of the European Commission, Brussels

Ferdinand Kirchhof
Professor, University of Tübingen, former Vice-President of the Federal Constitutional Court, Reutlingen

Pauliine Koskelo
Judge, European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg

Hubert Legal
Former judge at the General Court of the EU, former Director General of the Legal Service of the Council of the EU

Jacques Malherbe
Simont Braun, Brussels

Paul Nemitz, Principal Adviser, European Commission, Brussels

Maria José Rangel de Mesquita
Judge of the Constitutional Court, Lisbon

Jean-Philippe Rageade
Director of Programmes, Academy of European Law (ERA), Trier

Max Steinbeis
Editor of Verfassungsblog, Berlin

Christiaan Timmermans
Professor, Erasmus University, Rotterdam; former Judge of the Court of Justice of the European Union, Tervuren

Diana Wallis
Senior Fellow, University of Hull; former President of ELI; former Vice-President of the European Parliament, Hull