

The Rule of Law

Bridging or Sanctioning Differences?

Program

28 – 29 September 2023

Saxon State Ministry of Justice, Democracy, European Affairs and Gender Equality
in Cooperation with Leipzig University and the Federal Administrative Court

Location

Leipzig, Federal Administrative Court
Conference languages German and English, simultaneous translation is provided.



28 SEP 2023

TIME PROGRAM

09:00-12:30h Court Simulation CJEU (Summer School only)
Court Room VI – Saal VI

From 12.00h Lunch and Coffee

**13:00-14:00h Start of the Leipzig Rule of Law Conference
Main Court Room – Großer Saal**

Welcome

Prof. Dr. Andreas Korbmacher, President of the Federal Administrative Court

Prof. Dr. Eva Inés Oberfell, Rector Leipzig University

Katja Meier, Saxon State Minister of Justice and for Democracy, European Affairs and Gender Equality

Key Note Speech

Dr. Franziska Brantner, Parliamentary State Secretary at the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action

Introduction

Prof. Dr. Astrid Lorenz, *Prof. Dr. Mattias Wendel*, Leipzig University

**14:00-15:30h Panel: Recent Developments in Legal and Political Perspectives
Main Court Room – Großer Saal**

Constitutional and Democratic Resilience

Prof. Dr. Pál Sonnevend, ELTE Budapest, Faculty of Law

Judicial Independence

Dr. Paweł Filipek, Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, Institute of Law Studies

Countering Rule of Law Backsliding From a European Perspective: How Effective are the New Instruments?

Prof. Dr. Julio Baquero Cruz, *European Commission Legal Service and Université Libre de Bruxelles*

Civil servants and the Rise of Anti-constitutional Sentiment in Germany: Reclaiming the Rule of Law

Mathias Weilandt, State Secretary, Saxon State Ministry of Justice, Democracy, European Affairs and Gender Equality

Chair: *Prof. Dr. Mattias Wendel*, Leipzig University

TIME PROGRAM

15:30-16:00h Break

**16:00-17:00h
(Parallel Panels)** **A) Debating the Academic Debates in Law and Political Sciences
Main Court Room – Großer Saal**

Containing the Illiberal Backlash: The Debate on the Role of Constitutional Courts in the ECE Countries

Prof. Dr. Petra Guasti, Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Social Sciences

Bridging or Sanctioning Differences? The Debates in Political Sciences – A view from outside ECE

Prof. Dr. César Colino, UNED, Political Science Department

Bridging or Sanctioning Differences? The Debates in Legal Scholarship

Prof. Dr. Päivi Leino-Sandberg, University of Helsinki, Faculty of Law

Chair: *Prof. Dr. Astrid Lorenz*, Leipzig University

**B) Debating Civil Society Revolt Against Rule of Law Challenges
Court Room IV – Saal IV**

Judicial Activism against Rule of Law Restrictions in Poland,

Sylwia Gregorczyk-Abram, Wolne sądy, Free Courts Organization Poland

Defending the Rule of Law before the ECJ,

Filipe Marques, Judge and former President of the European Judges Association MEDEL

Protection and Europeanization of Civil Society and the Role of the European Parliament

Dr. Sergey Lagodinsky, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair Committee on Legal Affairs

Chair: *Dr. Claudia Matthes*, Humboldt-University Berlin, Institute of Social Sciences

C) Roundtable of the Saxon Minister of Justice with Participants of the Summer School (internal)

17:15-18:45h **Panel Discussion: Safeguarding the Rule of Law – What Results?
Main Court Room – Großer Saal**

Dr. Katarina Barley, Vice-President of the European Parliament

Viktor Vadász, Deputy Director and Director of Programmes of the Academy of European Law (ERA), former Hungarian judge and former spokesperson of the National Judicial Council

Igor Tuleya, Judge at the District Court of Warsaw

Chairs: *Prof. Dr. Astrid Lorenz*, *Prof. Dr. Mattias Wendel*, Leipzig University

19:00h Conference Reception

29 SEP 2023

All sessions in Main Courtroom /Großer Saal

TIME	PROGRAM
From 8:00h	Coffee
9:00-9:45h	<p>Start of Day 2 of the Leipzig Rule of Law Conference</p> <p>The Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights <i>Prof. Dr. Koen Lenaerts</i>, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union</p> <p>Rule(s) of Law? A View From the Commission <i>Didier Reynders</i>, European Commissioner for Justice</p> <p>Chair: <i>Prof. Dr. Astrid Lorenz</i>, <i>Prof. Dr. Mattias Wendel</i>, Leipzig University</p>
9:45-11:30h	<p>Panel: Regional or National Peculiarities in Understanding the Rule of Law?</p> <p>Historicizing the Constitutional Crisis in Poland: The Spectrum of Critical Discourses <i>Dr. Naum Trajanovski</i>, University of Warsaw, Faculty of Sociology</p> <p>The Rule of Law – a Czech Perspective <i>Dr. Jana Ondřejková</i>, Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Law</p> <p>Rule of Law as the Rights of the Volk: Human Rights, the Basic Law and the Far-Right since German Reunification <i>Dr. Ned Richardson-Little</i>, University of Erfurt, Department of History</p> <p>Rule of Law Narratives in East Central Europe <i>Prof. Dr. Astrid Lorenz</i>, <i>PD Dr. Dietmar Müller</i> and <i>Jan Němec</i>, PhD, Leipzig University, Institute of Political Science</p> <p>Chair: <i>Prof. Dr. Astrid Lorenz</i>, Leipzig University</p>
11:30-11:45h	Break

TIME PROGRAM

11:45-13:15h

Panel: Defining Rule of Law Standards – Understanding Entanglements between EU Law and Domestic Law

Between Conceptual Autonomy and Constitutional Traditions: Defining Rule of Law Standards in Terms of EU Law

Prof. Dr. András Jakab, University of Salzburg, Department of Public, International and European Law

Judicial Activism against Rule of Law Challenges and its Effects on Defining Rule of Law Standards

Dr. Claudia Matthes, Humboldt-University Berlin, Institute of Social Sciences

Rule of Law Standards and the Preliminary Ruling Procedure: A View From Legal Practice

Dragos Calin, Judge at Bucharest Court of Appeal and Co-chair of the Romanian Judges Forum

Illiberal Democracy as a transformative tool to change Rule of Law Standards

Prof. Renáta Uitz, Professor of law and government, Department of Law and Criminology, Royal Holloway, University of London and senior research fellow, CEU Democracy Institute

Chair: *Prof. Dr. Mattias Wendel*, Leipzig University

13:15-13:30h

Conclusion and Open Questions - Bridging or Sanctioning Differences?

Prof. Dr. Astrid Lorenz, *Prof. Dr. Mattias Wendel*, Leipzig University

Concluding Remarks

Katja Meier, Saxon State Minister of Justice and for Democracy, European Affairs and Gender Equality
