

International conference

Constitutionalism in Europe: Current Challenges and Prospects for the Future

Conference speakers

Session I.

Contemporary Challenges to
Constitutionalism



Prof. Dr.

Hanna Suchocka

Dr. Hanna Suchocka – politician, diplomat, law professor and Honorary President of the “European Commission for Democracy through Law” (Venice Commission). She began her political career in 1980 as the advisor for Solidarity movement (Solidarność), was elected as a Solidarity candidate to the Polish Parliament initiating the political transformation in 1989. H. Suchocka served in Polish Sejm until 2001. In 1992 she was elected as a Prime Minister of Poland, the first female prime minister in the history of the country. From 1997 to 2000 she served as the Minister of Justice and Attorney General and then from 2001 until 2013 – as an Ambassador of the Republic of Poland to the Holy See. H. Suchocka is now a professor at the Constitutional Law Department at the Adam Mickiewicz University of Poznan.



Prof. Dr.

Cesare Pinelli

Dr. Cesare Pinelli - full Professor of constitutional law and of public law and Director of the Doctorate in Public Law at the University of Rome Sapienza, Member of the “European Commission for Democracy through Law” (Venice Commission), Director of the review “Diritto pubblico”, chief editor of the review “Rivista italiana per le scienze giuridiche”, member of the editorial board of the review “Giurisprudenza costituzionale”, former member of the International Association of Constitutional Law’s Executive Committee (2004-2010). C. Pinelli is an author and co-author of numerous books and articles on constitutional law, constitutional democracy, constitutional traditions, parliamentarism, populism, and constitutional pluralism.



Prof. Dr.

Wen-Chen Chang

Dr. Wen-Chen Chang is Distinguished Professor of National Taiwan University College of Law and Joint-Appointment Professor at National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University School of Law.

Her teaching and research interests lie in comparative constitutional law, international human rights, administrative laws, and law and society. She has published major scholarly works on comparative constitutional studies including coedited volumes of Constitutionalism in Asia: Cases and Materials (Hart Publishing, 2014), Asian Courts in Context (Cambridge University Press, 2015), and Gender, Sexuality and Constitutionalism in Asia (Hart Publishing, forthcoming 2022).

She serves in the editorial boards of International Journal of Constitutional Law, Cambridge Journal of Global Constitutionalism, and Asian Journal of Comparative Law.

She has received numerous awards for her teaching and research including recently the Excellence in English Teaching Award by National Taiwan University in 2021 and the Outstanding Research Award by Taiwan’s Ministry of Science and Technology in 2015.



Prof.

Grainne McMorrow

Grainne McMorrow – Senior Counsel, Professor of Law (Adjunct), University of Galway (Ireland), Independent Expert Adviser to the “European Commission for Democracy through Law” (Venice Commission).



Assist. Prof. Dr.

Jānis Pleps

Dr.iur. Jānis Pleps is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Latvia. He teaches Legal Theory and Legal Methods. Dr. J. Pleps is the co-author of the leading textbook on Latvian Constitutional Law (Latvian editions - 2004, 2014 and 2021, English edition - 2022). In October 2022, he was appointed as a Judge at the Supreme Court. Before that, J. Pleps served as a Legal Adviser to the Parliament (2008-2015) and President (2015-2022).



Prof. Dr.

**Vytautas
Sinkevičius**

Dr. Vytautas Sinkevičius – Professor Emeritus at Mykolas Romeris University (Lithuania). Following his graduation from the Faculty of Law of Vilnius University in 1975, V. Sinkevičius remained at the Department of Public Law of the same faculty as a university lecturer. In 1981–1990, he worked for the Presidium of the Supreme Council. In 1990–1999, he was Deputy Director and subsequently Director of the Legal Department of the Supreme Council-Reconstituent Seimas (later—of the Seimas). He was a member of the group for the preparation of the draft Constitution. In 2001, he defended his doctoral thesis and was awarded a PhD in law. In 1999–2008, he served as a justice of the Constitutional Court.



Prof. Dr.

Dainius Žalimas

Dr. Dainius Žalimas – Professor of constitutional and international law. Dean of the Faculty of Law at Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas), Head of the Law and Democracy Center (Justice Hub for Belarus). Member of the European Commission “Democracy through Law” (the Venice Commission).

Former judge (2011-2021) and President (2014-2021) of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania. In 2005-2011 – Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration. In 1998-2011 – Legal Adviser to the Minister of National Defence of the Republic of Lithuania.

D. Žalimas was awarded the Grand Cross of Commander of the Order of Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas (of the Republic of Lithuania) in 2018; the “Order of Honour” (of the Republic of Moldova) in 2016, as well as a number of other state awards.

He is an author or co-author of more than 10 books on public international law and constitutional law, more than 160 scientific articles and more than 80 other articles published in different journals. In 1991 he participated in the defence of the Republic of Lithuania from the Soviet aggression.

Session II.

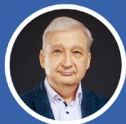
Current Challenges in Rebuilding Constitutionalism



Prof. Dr.
Renáta Uitz

Dr. Renáta Uitz started teaching comparative constitutional law at Central European University in 2001. In February 2022 she joined CEU's Democracy Institute as a co-director. Her major research interests lie in transition to and from constitutional democracy, the protection of individual autonomy and religious liberty. Her current work focuses on illiberal constitutional practices in the European Union and the normalization of illiberal constitutionalism around the world. Her most recent book publication is the *Routledge Handbook of Illiberalism*, co-edited with András Sajó and Stephen Holmes (Routledge 2021).

She was a co-PI in the Jean Monnet Network BRIDGE (2019-2022) that explored how four intersecting crises (including Brexit and the rule of law crisis) shape the European Union. As a co-PI in the multidisciplinary research network investigating the origins and iterations of illiberal constitutionalism in East Central Europe, funded by the Volkswagen Stiftung (2021-25), her work traces the emergence of illiberal Christian democracy in the EU on the heels of domestic constitutional and policy changes. She is also a co-PI in a CIVICA project on Religion, Illiberal Constitutionalism and the Retrogression of Fundamental Rights in East Central Europe (ReLiCon).



Prof. Dr.
Alexander Vashkevich

Dr. Alexander Vashkevich - former Justice of the Constitutional Court of Belarus (until 2006), Full Professor of Public Law at European Humanities University (Vilnius, Lithuania). A. Vashkevich currently teaches Comparative Constitutional Law, European Human Rights Law and EU Institutional Law and is a member of the Board of the EHU Center for Constitutionalism and Human Rights.

He holds LL.M. from Belarusian State University Law Faculty and doctoral degree in Constitutional Law from Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University in Kharkiv, Ukraine. He has more than 130 scientific publications, including several monographs devoted to the problems of human rights and constitutional law issues. A. Vashkevich is an expert of the Council of Europe and United Nations as well as the member of the OSCE/ODIHR Panel of Experts on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Association; co-author of the joint OSCE/ODIHR-Venice Commission Guidelines on Freedom of Peaceful Assembly.



Assoc. Prof. dr.
Anahit Manasyan

Dr. Anahit Manasyan – an Associate Professor at the Department of Constitutional Law of Yerevan State University, as of November 2022 – Deputy Prosecutor-General of the Republic of Armenia, former member of the Professional Commission on Constitutional Reforms of the Republic of Armenia and of the Commission on Evaluation of the Performance of Judges. Formerly A. Manasyan was the Vice-Rector of the Armenian Justice Academy, as well as the Senior Adviser to the President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Armenia. She is an author/co-author of 11 monographs, 4 textbooks and more than 70 scientific articles which were published both in Armenian and other languages. A. Manasyan is a member of Editorial Boards of various international academic journals, as well as a consultant in the frames of different international projects.



Prof.
Zaza Tavadze

Zaza Tavadze – Professor at Grigol Robakidze University (Georgia), member of the Tbilisi City Municipal Assembly; former President of the Constitutional Court of Georgia in 2016-2020, Justice of the Constitutional Court (2010-2020); Vice-President of the Constitutional Court (2016-2017), deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia (2008- 2010).

Z. Tavadze is a PhD candidate in public law at the Law Faculty of Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg (since 2019).



Prof. Dr.
Adam Bodnar

Dr. Adam Bodnar - Professor of law and Dean of the Law Faculty of the SWPS University in Warsaw, visiting professor of the University of Cologne, senior fellow of the Democracy Institute of the Central European University in Budapest, former Ombudsman of the Republic of Poland (09.2015 - 07.2021), Member of advisory boards of International IDEA, World Organization Against Torture, Liberties and World Justice Project, Columnist of "Gazeta Wyborcza" daily.



Dr.
Joelle Grogan

Dr. Joelle Grogan – legal academic, and an expert in the rule of law and crisis governance, working in the fields of EU law, public law, health law and comparative constitutional law.

J. Grogan has an undergraduate degree in Law from Trinity College Dublin where she was elected a Scholar of the University. She graduated with Distinction from the BCL at Oxford University, and also holds a doctorate in law from Oxford University.

J. Grogan is currently Senior Researcher (Research Fellow) at UK in a Changing Europe, an independent think tank based at King's College London. She is also Research Fellow at the CEU Democracy Institute, Co-Director of The Good Lobby Profs, and Creator of Sticky Tricky Law. She was previously Senior Lecturer in Law at Middlesex University London (2016-2022) and Director of the FinTech startup, InferStat (2020-2022).



Assoc. Prof. dr.
Saniia Toktogazieva

Dr. Saniia Toktogazieva is an Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Human Rights program at the American University of Central Asia in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. She holds an SJD degree (Doctor of Juridical Science) in Comparative Constitutional Law from Central European University (CEU).

S. Toktogazieva has an extensive working experience as a short-term consultant and invited expert in international, regional, and local organizations such as the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), OSCE, NDI, IMO, and as an instructor and teaching assistant at Central European University.

S. Toktogazieva is a laureate of the "Honor of the Nation" award dedicated to the memory of Salizhan Zhigitov, for civic activism (2020), laureate of the "Zharan" award for significant civic contribution to the development of the rule of law in Kyrgyzstan (2021). She is also a laureate of the "The Best Teacher Award of AUCA" in recognition of excellence in teaching and dedication to the growth and enrichment of AUCA (2018).



Prof. dr.
Iurii Barabash

Dr. Iurii Barabash – Professor of Constitutional Law, Vice-rector for Scientific-and-Pedagogical Affairs and Strategic Development at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University (Ukraine), Corresponding Member of the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine.

In 2002, after graduating from Yaroslav Mudryi National Law Academy of Ukraine, I. Barabash became a post-graduate researcher and defended his dissertation for the degree of Candidate of Legal Sciences. Following this I. Barabash worked as an assistant and associate professor of the Department of Constitutional Law of Ukraine. In 2006 – 2007, I. Barabash was Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Personnel Training for the Bodies of Justice. From 2007 to 2015 he was Acting Head and subsequently Head of Department of Constitutional Law of Ukraine. In 2009 he defended his doctoral dissertation.

I. Barabash is the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine; Deputy Chairman of the Working Group for the Drafting of Proposals for Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine of the Commission for Legal Reform under the President of Ukraine; member of the Board of the State Service of Education Quality of Ukraine; member of the Working Group on the organization and conduct of a single professional entrance test of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.



Assoc. Prof. Dr.
Lina Strupinskiene

Dr. Lina Strupinskiene – Deputy Director for Studies of the Institute of International Relations and Political Science at Vilnius University; associate professor. L. Strupinskiene teaches courses on the analysis of violent ethnic conflicts, transitional justice and reconciliation. L. Strupinskiene is a member of the Western Balkans Experts' Pool at the European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats (Hybrid CoE, Helsinki).

Session III.

Future of Constitutionalism



Prof. Dr.
Lauri Mälksoo

Dr. Lauri Mälksoo – a Professor of International Law at the University of Tartu in Estonia and the Head of the Public Law Department at the Law School. He is member of the Venice Commission, the Institut de Droit International and the Estonian Academy of Sciences. He has authored numerous publications about international law and constitutionalism, including the monographs “Illegal Annexation and State Continuity” (also published in Lithuanian in 2021) and “Russian Approaches to International Law” (2015). In 2002-2012, L. Mälksoo worked as adviser of the Chancellor of Justice of the Republic of Estonia.



Dr.
Sumit Bisarya

Dr. Sumit Bisarya heads International IDEA's Constitution-Building Programme, which produces global comparative knowledge, conducts policy advocacy within the field of constitution-building and provides technical support to in-country constitution reform programmes. S. Bisarya also serves as Head of Mission for International IDEA in the Netherlands.

In 2020-2021, S. Bisarya was seconded to the UN as the senior constitutions' advisor for the Department for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. Prior to joining International IDEA, he worked with the International Development Law Organization based in Rome, Italy, where he was manager of IDLO's field programmes. He designed, managed and implemented rule of law assistance programmes in Afghanistan and East/Horn of Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan).

S. Bisarya has been engaged in constitution-building assistance programmes in a range of countries and contexts including Chile, Haiti, Myanmar, Nepal, the Gambia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Ukraine.



Prof. Dr.
Yen-Tu Su

Dr. Yen-Tu Su is a research professor at Institutum Iurisprudentiae, Academia Sinica (IIAS) in Taiwan. He also serves as the Deputy Director of the Center for Empirical Legal Studies at IIAS. His research interests include the law of democracy, democratic theory, constitutional theory, comparative constitutional law, and judicial behavior. Su has sought to bridge and extend the interdisciplinary dialogues between doctrinal jurisprudence, comparative law, and institutional design on the one hand, and democratic/political theory on the other. He also tries to integrate normative discourse with legal-political history and empirical studies. Yen-Tu Su received his S.J.D. from Harvard University in 2010.



Prof. Dr.
Katharina Pabel

Dr. Katharina Pabel is full professor of Public Law and International Law at the University of Economics and Business in Vienna (Austria). She started her academic career in Bonn (Germany) and worked at the universities of Bonn, Graz and Cologne. From 2010 to 2020, she was full professor at the University of Linz (Austria) where she also took the office of the dean of the faculty. Since 2015, Katharina Pabel is substitute member of the Venice Commission.

In her research, Katharina Pabel focuses on the protection of human rights on national, European and International level. She published several articles on specific human rights, on the mechanisms of protecting human rights and on the rule of law concept. Together with Christoph Grabenwarter she is author of a comprehensive book on the European Convention on Human Rights (7th ed. 2021).



Assoc. Prof. Dr.
Ingrida Danėlienė

Dr. Ingrida Danėlienė is the Head of Academic Social Sciences Department, Associate Professor at European Humanities University (EHU). She is also a Senior Research Fellow at the Faculty of Political Science and Diplomacy of Vytautas Magnus University (Kaunas, Lithuania).

I. Danėlienė is a legal academic and practitioner with 20 years of experience in various spheres of law. From 2003 until 2022 she worked within the Supreme Administrative Court of Lithuania, Constitutional Court of the Republic Lithuania, Faculty of Law of Vilnius University, and most recently – as the Vice-Dean and Associate Professor at the School of Law of Mykolas Romeris University (Vilnius, Lithuania). From 2015 until 2020 she served as a member of various national and international expert councils and commissions, including the Joint Council of Constitutional Justice of the Venice Commission. I. Danėlienė is a co-author and author of numerous scientific articles, monographs on constitutional law, constitutional justice, administrative law, administrative justice, human rights, gender equality.



Prof. Dr.
Serhiy Riznyk

Dr. Serhiy Riznyk – Vice-Rector for Research, Teaching and International Cooperation, Professor of constitutional law at Ivan Franko National University of Lviv.

In 2008 S. Riznyk successfully defended his dissertation and earned the degree of Candidate of Legal Sciences in constitutional law and municipal law. In February 2015, S. Riznyk obtained the academic title of Associate Professor. Since January 2016 he worked as Deputy Head of the Department of Constitutional Law, co-Editor-in-Chief of the scientific magazine “Ukrainian Journal of Constitutional Law”, since August 2016 – Secretary of the Academic Council at the Faculty of Law. From April 2017 until September 2018 he served as Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law for educational work and international cooperation. Since 2019 S. Riznyk is Deputy Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine. In 2021 S. Riznyk defended his dissertation and earned the degree of Doctor of Legal Sciences in constitutional law and municipal law at the V.M. Korytsky Institute of State and Law of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.



Prof. Dr.
Justinas Žilinskas

Dr. Justinas Žilinskas – Professor at Mykolas Romeris University, Institute of International and EU Law. He is a former member of International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission, member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration. His previous experiences include working in various governmental institutions as state servant and legal expert, working on cases before the European Court of Human Rights, various working groups on legal reforms and development. J. Žilinskas is a member and expert of the Research Council of Lithuania (Humanitarian and Social Sciences Committee). His main publications are on International Humanitarian Law, Human Rights Law, International Criminal Law.

