

# International conference on “Rule of law in the EU and the application of Article 7 TEU”

12 November 2024

Hall I (ground floor)  
KEDEA building, University campus,  
Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,  
Thessaloniki, Greece

The conference is co-hosted by the Double Degree Master Program “European Studies” (ESIS) of the School of Political Sciences at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the Center for the European Legal Culture of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and the Jean Monnet Chair “EU Horizons” of the School of Political Sciences.

## Programme

**11.30 - 12.00** Registration

**12.00 - 12.15** Greetings by academic authorities and the Program Director

**12.15-12.30** Introductory remarks, **Lina Papadopoulou**, Professor, Jean Monnet Chairholder for European Constitutional Law and Culture, School of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

**12.30 - 13.00** **Keynote speech.** “A bad workman always blames his tools - The case of Article 7 TEU and other EU rule of law tools”, **Laurent Pech**, Professor and Dean of Law, Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin

**13.00 - 14.00** **Buffet lunch**

**14.00 - 15.30** **Panel 1.** “Rule of Law: Institutional and political issues”. Chair **Joseph Ktenidis**, Professor, School of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

- “Restoring Dialogical Rule of Law in the European Union”, **Dimitry Kochenov**, Professor, Central European University, Budapest
- “Rule of Law: Are the EU Institutions practicing what they preach? The case of transparency and good administration”, **Emilio de Capitani**, former Head of the EP LIBE Committee (1998-2011), Visiting Professor, Scuola Superiore S. Anna (Pisa)

**Discussion**

15.30-17.15

**Panel 2.** “Perspectives of rule of law: states, institutions and society”, Chair, **George Andreou**, Associate Professor, School of Political Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

- “National identity claims and the rule of law. How can the two be reconciled in the EU”, **Kriszta Kovacs**, Associate Professor, ELTE (Eötvös Loránd University), Senior Research Fellow, WZB Berlin Social Science Center
- ““The independence of national courts as a principle of rule of Law in CJEU caselaw”, **Despina Anagnostopoulou**, Professor, Department of International and European Studies, University of Macedonia”, (Thessaloniki)
- “Fundamental rights and the role of civil society”. **Markus Thiel**, Professor & Director, EU/Jean Monnet Center of Excellence, School of Politics and International Relations, Florida International University

#### Discussion

17.15 – 17.45 **Coffee break**

17.45 – 19.15

**Panel 3.** “Rule of law and accession countries”, Chair, **Eftychia Teperoglou**, Assistant Professor, School of Political Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

- “Learning from the best? Perspectives of rule of law in the accession countries” **Hektor Ruci**, Lecturer, University of New York Tirana
- “Rule of law and the future of EU enlargement”, **Katrin Nyman-Metcalf**, Adjunct Professor, Department of Law, Tallinn University of Technology

#### Discussion

19.15 – 19.30

**Conclusions:** “Strengthening the Rule of Law: Policy Recommendations and Innovations”, **Ioannis Papageorgiou**, Professor, School of Political Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

A dedicated website of the conference is hosted on the website of the MA Programme:

<https://ma-europeanstudies.polsci.auth.gr/en/international-conference-on-rule-of-law-and-the-application-of-article-7-teu-12-november-2024-kedea-building/>

The conference will be webstreamed and recorded.

# The Speakers



## Laurent Pech

Laurent Pech is Full Professor and Dean of Law, Dean of Law and Head of the Sutherland School of Law, University College Dublin. He is also a Visiting Professor of Law at Bordeaux University, a Visiting Professor of Law at Panthéon-Assas University, a Senior Research Fellow at the CEU Democracy Institute in Budapest, and the co-director of The Good Lobby Profs which he co-founded in 2021.

## Dimitry Kochenov

Professor Dimitry Vladimirovich Kochenov (LEGS '02) leads the Rule of Law Workgroup at CEU Democracy Institute and teaches at the Department of Legal Studies. Prof. Kochenov's research focuses on the principles of law in the global context, with a special emphasis on the Rule of Law, citizenship, and the enforcement of EU values.



## Emilio de Capitani

Emilio de Capitani is a Former Head of Legislative coordination Service in the Government of Lombardy Region (Italy) 1971-1985. Former Official of the European Parliament (Institutional Relations and "Legislative Backbone" 1985-1998 then Secretary of the Civil Liberties Committee (LIBE) 1998-2011. Currently Visiting Professor at Queen Mary Law School (London)

## Kriszta Kovác

Kriszta Kovács is a Senior Research Fellow at WZB Berlin Social Science Center and Associate Professor at ELTE University Faculty of Social Sciences, Budapest. She is a former Research Fellow of the Cluster of Excellence 'Contestations of the Liberal Script (SCRIPTS)' and a former Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow. She is also a former senior adviser of the Hungarian Constitutional Court and former co-president of the Joint Council on Constitutional Justice (Venice Commission, Council of Europe).



# The Speakers



## Despina Anagnostopoulou

Professor Despina Anagnostopoulou teaches EU Law and Policies at the University of Macedonia, and serves as the Director of the UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Policy for an Active Citizenship and Solidarity. She held the Jean Monnet Chair on New Dimensions in EU Legal Studies (2012-2015) and she was the Academic Coordinator for the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence as well as for the Jean Monnet Project on Intercultural Dialogue, EU Values, and Diversity at the University of Macedonia. She is a member of the Council of the European Law Institute (Vienna).

## Markus Thiel

Markus Thiel is a professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University, Miami and director of FIU's Jean Monnet Center of Excellence. Dr. Thiel's research interests are the political sociology of the EU and European (Union) Politics more generally, as well as Human Rights and Identity Politics.



## Hektor RUCI

Hektor RUCI is a lector of Public International and EU Law at the Law Department of the University of New York, Tirana. His main fields of interest are Human Rights and Law of the Seas. Prior to his academic career, Ruci served for 8 years as Director of Research and Foreign Relations Department of the Supreme Court of Albania. He also contributes as an external expert and collaborator for UNICEF, Raoul Wallenberg Institute (Sweden), European Public Law Organization, etc.

## Katrin Nyman-Metcalf

Katrin Nyman Metcalf, Adjunct Professor of Communications Law, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia, is also active globally as a consultant on legal issues related digital matters like cyber security, e-governance and human rights in the digital environment as well as media-related legal issues. Professor Nyman Metcalf has published extensively on issues related to law and technology, human rights - especially freedom of expression - and regional integration. Her PhD (1999, Uppsala University, Sweden) is on the law of outer space.

