Monitoring and Enforcement of the Rule of Law in the EU: Rhetoric and Reality

Article 2 of the Treaty of the European Union provides that the rule of law is one of the fundamental values on which the EU is based. Faced with an increasing number of challenges to the rule of law in EU countries, the European Commission adopted a new framework to strengthen the rule of law in March 2014. Rather than supporting the Commission’s proposals, the Council proposed its own solution last December: a rule of law dialogue between national governments to be held once a year in Brussels. Prior to this, the European Parliament had proposed to launch a ‘new Copenhagen mechanism’ to monitor the situation in the individual Member States through a new periodic and objective process. More recently, the Liberal Group in the European Parliament (ALDE) proposed the establishment of a ‘rule of law pact’, modelled on the Stability and Growth Pact for the Euro area, with the aim of more effectively guaranteeing Member States compliance with the values laid down in Article 2 TEU post EU accession.

This conference aims to bring officials, practitioners and academics together to reflect on the mechanisms put forward by the Commission and the Council to more effectively uphold and safeguard the rule of law within the EU. Alternative proposals for new rule of law instruments originating from other institutions, organisations and academia will also be explored.

Speakers

- Professor Dr Roberto Baratta, Università di Macerata and former Legal Adviser to the Permanent Representation of Italy to the European Union
- Nicolaas Bel, Directorate-General Justice and Consumers, European Commission
- Martijn de Grave, Netherlands Permanent Representation to the EU, Justice and Home Affairs Counsellor
- Dr Jonas Grimheden, Head of Sector Access to Justice, EU Fundamental Rights Agency
- Natacha Kazatchkine, Senior Policy Analyst, Open Society European Policy Institute
- Professor Dr Dimitry Kochenov, Chair in EU Constitutional Law, University of Groningen
- Dr Amichai Magen, (Interdisciplinary Center (IDC), Herzliya and Hoover Institution, Stanford University)
- Claude Moraes MEP, Chairman of the European Parliament’s Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Committee (LIBE)
- Peter Oliver, Monckton Chambers; former Legal Advisor, European Commission; and Bingham Centre Fellow
- Professor Laurent Pech, Jean Monnet Chair of EU Public Law and Head of the Law and Politics Department, Middlesex University
- Professor Sionaidh Douglas-Scott, Professor of European and Human Rights Law, University of Oxford
- Justine Stefanelli, Maurice Wohl Associate Senior Research Fellow in European Law, Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law
- Diana Wallis, President of the European Law Institute and Past Vice President of the European Parliament

Pricing and Registration

Registration fee is £25 for all attendees (both BIICL members & non-members)

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