



Advanced Training in EU Law for Judges and Prosecutors

PRELIMINARY RULING PROCEDURE, CHARTER
OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND THE RULE OF LAW

Riga, 19-21 June 2024

EXCELLENCE IN
EUROPEAN LAW¹

Speakers

Lolita Buka, Senior Researcher and Lawyer, Baltic Human Rights Society, Riga

Dominik Düsterhaus, Legal Secretary, Court of Justice of the EU, Luxembourg

Viktor Kazai, Post-doctoral Researcher, Free University of Brussels

Tobias Lock, Professor of EU Law, Jean Monnet Chair in EU Law, Maynooth University, Ireland

Goran Selanec, Judge, Constitutional Court of Croatia, Zagreb

Aleksandra Sołtysińska, Judge, District Court in Cracow, Assistant Professor of EU Law, Jagiellonian University, Cracow

Monika Szwarc, Professor of EU Law, Institute of Law Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw

Pēteris Zilgalvis, Judge, General Court of the European Union, Luxembourg

Key topics

- Preliminary reference as the core of the EU judicial system
- The Charter of Fundamental Rights in practice
- Recent case law on the rule of law
- Judiciary in the digital era

Language
English (with Latvian interpretation)

Event number
424DT103

Organiser
ERA (Karolina Rokicka) in cooperation with EPGO, LJTC and NCA

Location
Latvian Judicial Training Centre
Marstalu Str. 19
Riga, Latvia

Advanced Training in EU Law for Judges and Prosecutors

Wednesday, 19 June 2024

- 08:30 Arrival and registration of participants
- 09:00 **Welcome and introduction of participants**

I. PRELIMINARY RULING PROCEDURE

- 09:45 **Preliminary ruling procedure as a useful tool within the national judicial system – Part 1**
- Keystone of the EU judicial system
 - Judicial independence
 - Change in competences
- Monika Szwarc*
- 10:15 Discussion
- 10:30 **Preliminary ruling procedure as a useful tool within the national judicial system – Part 2**
- Admissibility
 - Act claire and act éclairé in the light of the recent jurisprudence
- Dominik Dusterhaus*
- 11:00 Discussion
- 11:15 Coffee break
- 11:45 **Tips and recommendations on a preliminary reference**
- Dominik Dusterhaus*
- 12:15 Discussion
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 **WORKING SESSION: Case study and exchange of best practice**
- Dominik Dusterhaus and Monika Szwarc*
- 15:00 Coffee break

II. RULE OF LAW AND JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE

- 15:30 **Legal framework of the rule of law in the European Union**
- Monika Szwarc*
- 16:15 Discussion
- 16:30 End of first seminar day
- 19:00 Seminar dinner

Thursday, 20 June 2024

III. CHARTER OF FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

- 09:00 **Fundamental and human rights protection mechanism in the European Union**
- Tobias Lock*
- 09:30 Discussion

Objective

The objective of this seminar is to train judges and prosecutors from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania together in EU law in order to strengthen the effective and coherent application of EU law. As a result, this advanced training aims at contributing to building a network of EU law trainers and coordinators in these Baltic states.

Who should attend?

56 participants: 18 places are reserved for Latvian judges and 10 places are reserved for Latvian prosecutors, 3 places are reserved for 3 Estonian judges and 5 places are reserved for Estonian prosecutors, 15 places are reserved for Lithuanian judges and 5 places are reserved for Lithuanian prosecutors.

You will learn...

- how to apply EU law correctly
- how to improve your preliminary reference
- how and when to apply the Charter in your national case
- what the recent case law is with regard to the rule of law and judicial independence

Conference dinner

After a day's intensive exchange, enjoy our joint dinners on 19 and 20 June at the restaurants in the city centre.

Your contacts



Karolina Rokicka
Head of Section
E-Mail: krokicka@era.int



Tatsiana Bras-Gonçalves
Assistant
E-Mail: tbras@era.int

09:45 **The Charter of Fundamental Rights as a useful tool for judges and prosecutors**
Tobias Lock

10:45 Discussion

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 **The scope of application of the Charter of Fundamental Rights**
Lolita Buka

12:15 Discussion

12:30 Lunch

13:30 **WORKING SESSION: Case study on the scope of application**
Lolita Buka and Tobias Lock

15:00 Coffee break

IV. RULE OF LAW AND JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE (cont.)

15:30 **Recent jurisprudence of the CJEU and ECHR in the area of the rule of law**
Viktor Kazai

16:30 Discussion

16:45 End of second seminar day

19:00 Seminar dinner

Friday, 21 June 2024

V. RULE OF LAW AND JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE (cont.)

09:00 **The grey zones of the judicial independence**
Aleksandra Softysińska

09:30 **WORKING SESSION: Case study**
Aleksandra Softysińska and Goran Selanec

10:45 Coffee break and exchange of experience among participants

VI. JUDICIARY IN THE DIGITAL ERA

11:45 **Members of national judiciary in the digital era**
Pēteris Zilgalvis

12:15 Discussion

12:30 End of seminar

For programme updates: www.era.int
Programme may be subject to amendment.

Partners

Beneficiaries:

Estonian Prosecutor
General's Office



Latvian Judicial
Training Centre



National Courts
Administration of
Lithuania



Associated Partners:

Supreme Court of
Estonia



Public Prosecutor's
Office of Latvia



Prosecutor General's
Office of Lithuania



Application for

Advanced Training in EU Law for Judges and Prosecutors

Riga, 19-21 June 2024 / Event Number: 424DT103



Applications can be made only via the project partners.

Location Latvian Judicial Training Centre Marstalu Str. 19, Riga, LV-1050, Latvia	Participation Participation will be subject to a <u>selection procedure</u> by the project partners, since the number of places is limited. In addition, you will need to register online on ERA website in order to participate in the seminar. We strongly advise you <u>not</u> to make any travel arrangements before your registration is confirmed.
Language English with Latvian interpretation	Registration fee There is no registration fee.
Contact Tatsiana Bras-Gonçalves Assistant tbras@era.int +49 (0) 651 93737-423	Travel and accommodation - Participants will receive a <u>fixed contribution</u> towards their travel expenses and will be asked to book their own travel after receiving confirmation from ERA. The condition for payment of this contribution is to sign <u>all</u> attendance sheets at the event. No supporting documents are needed. The amount of the contribution will be determined by (adapting to the project context) the <u>EU unit cost calculation guidelines</u> (https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/unit-cost-decision-travel_en.pdf), which are based on the distance from the participant's <u>place of work</u> to the seminar location and will <u>not</u> take account of the participant's actual travel costs. - Travel costs from <u>outside</u> Latvia are fixed at €45. - For those travelling <u>within</u> Latvia, the contribution for travel is fixed at €20 (for a distance between 50km and 400km). Please note that no contribution will be paid for travel under 50km. For more information, please consult p.10 on https://era-comm.eu/go/unit-cost-decision-travel . - The accommodation will be booked by the project partner. - Please note that <u>no payment</u> is possible if the registered participant cancels their participation for any reason.



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Baltic Network of EU Law
Experts

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Justice Programme of the
European Union (2021-2027).

Calendar of events 2024-2025

- **Seminar in Riga**, 19-21 June 2024, 56 participants
- **Seminar in Tallinn**, 30 September – 2 October 2024, 51 participants
- **Seminar in Vilnius**, 12-14 May, 58 participants
- **Study visit in Trier and Luxembourg**, 14-17 October 2025, 40 participants
- **Webinars**: Throughout 2024 and 2025. In 2024:
 - **12 June, 13:00-17:00 EEST**: European legislative search tools and judicial portals
 - **30 October, 13:00-17:00 EET**: FRA online tools
 - **10 December, 13:00-17:00 EET**: Digital skills with a special focus on the EIO and e-CODEX

Participants: Judges and prosecutors from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania

Language: All events will be held in English. In addition, interpretation to and from Latvian will be offered.

Application: Application is possible only via the project partners.