The crisis of the Rule of Law in the European Union

Working languages: Greek and English

The EU is faced with multiple political, economic and social challenges. Different voices call for a reorientation of the Union towards the acceleration and further deepening of the integration process, the strengthening of the EU’s presence in the world, but also a return to its core values and principles. Democracy, the protection of Human Rights and the Rule of Law belong to them. Lately, the latter is being threatened in several legal orders of the Union. The developments in some member states are fueling debates about how to protect the Rule of Law and other independent institutions. Distinguished speakers from Greece, Germany, Poland, Hungary and Austria shall shed light on the latest developments and share their views and expertise on how to keep our values and principles alive.

17:00h Registration
17:30h Welcome remarks

Prof. Napoleon Maravegias, Vice Rector, National and Kapodistrias University of Athens
Henri Bohnet, Director, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, Greece and Cyprus Office
Eftychia Kourakou, General Secretary of the Association of Greek Judges at the Hellenic Council of State
Aggeliki Lainioti, President of the Board of the Hellenic Union of Administrative Judges

17:50h General Introduction

Ass. Prof. Antonis Metaxas, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Athens, Vis. Professor TU Berlin
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18:00h  The view from Germany

Prof. Dr. Andreas Haratsch, Chair for German and European Constitutional and Administrative Law, Open University of Hagen, Director of the "Dimitris-Tsatsos-Institute" for European Constitutional Studies of the Open University of Hagen

18:15h  The view from Greece

Judge Dimitrios Skaltsounis, Vice-president of the Hellenic Council of State, representative of Greece to the European Networks of Councils for the Judiciary

18:30h  The view from Poland

Prof. Dr. Robert Grzeszczak, Professor of European Law, University of Warsaw

18:45h  The view from Hungary

Dr. habil. Nóra Chronowski, Ass. Prof. of Constitutional and European Constitutional Law, National University of Public Service, Budapest

19:00h  The view of the European Judges

Judge Dr. Markus Thoma, Österreichischer Verwaltungsgerichtshof, member of the Board of the Union of Austrian Judges

19:15h  The view of European Union

Prof. em. Vassilios Skouris, Director of the Centre of International and European Economic Law (CIEEL), former President of the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU)

19:30h  Concluding remarks: Assessing the impact of Populism on the Rule of Law

Prof. Dr. Xenophon Contiades, Panteion University, President of the Centre for European Constitutional Law – “T. and D. Tsatsos Foundation”

19:40h  Discussion

Moderator: Christos Rammos, Former Vice-President of the Hellenic Council of State

20:30h  End of the Event