

PROGRAMME



**23RD DUBROVNIK
JEAN MONNET SEMINAR:
ADVANCED ISSUES
OF EUROPEAN LAW**

**19-22 April 2026 | Akademis Academia
DUBROVNIK, CROATIA**

**REINFORCING
REINFORCING**

**THE UNION
THE UNION**

**OF VALUES
OF VALUES**



**JEAN MONNET
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

**‘Reinforcing
the Rule of Law
and EU Values’**



**Co-funded by
the European Union**

REINFORCING THE UNION OF VALUES

PROGRAMME

Sunday, 19 April 2026

15:00 – 15:15 WELCOME SPEECH

Iris Goldner Lang (University of Zagreb)

15:15 – 16:45 KEYNOTE LECTURE

Tamara Čapeta (Court of Justice of the EU)

Court of Justice as a Constitutional Court: Values and Diversity

17:00 – 18:30 PANEL 1: ANALYTICAL AND CONCEPTUAL PERSPECTIVES ON VALUES

The Meaning of EU Values: Between Philosophical Foundations and Constitutional Practice

Antonija Ivančan (University of Zagreb)

Legal Concept of National Identity Within EU Legal Order – Discourse Initiator or Discourse Disrupter?

Aristel Škrbić (University of Cambridge)

Informalisation of EU Migration Policy and the Idea of Europe

Franca Maria Feisel (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law)

Enforcing Values Without Freezing Democracy: A Reflexive-Democratic Approach to Article 2 TEU

Chair: Ana Bobić (Hertie School)

Discussant: Sacha Garben (College of Europe)

Monday, 20 April 2026

9:00 – 10:30 LECTURE 1

Sacha Garben (College of Europe)

The European Social Model

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 12:30 LECTURE 2

Gráinne de Búrca (European University Institute)
Democracy and the EU: An Uneasy Relationship?

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 16:00 BOOK ROUNDTABLE

Reinforcing EU Constitutionalism

Nika Bačić Selanec (University of Zagreb), Chair
Ana Bobić (Hertie School)
Monica Claes (Maastricht University)
Tamara Čapeta (Court of Justice of the EU)
Gareth Davies (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)
Iris Goldner Lang (University of Zagreb)
Zdeněk Kühn (Charles University Prague)
Siniša Rodin (Court of Justice of the EU)

Discussants: **Gráinne de Búrca** (European University Institute) and **Signe Rehling Larsen** (University of Warwick/University of Copenhagen)

Tuesday, 21 April 2026

9:00 – 10:30 LECTURE 3

Monica Claes (Maastricht University)
EU Constitutional Identity

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break

11:00 – 13:00 PANEL 2: FEDERALIST PERSPECTIVE ON VALUES

The Rise of Article 2 TEU and the Federal Balance of the Union

(with the screening of the delivery of judgment in
Case C-769/22 *Commission v Hungary*)

Luke Dimitrios Spieker (Humboldt University Berlin/Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law)

Zenith or Dawn? Article 2 TEU after Commission v Hungary

Signe Rehling Larsen (University of Warwick/University of Copenhagen)

Awakening Europe's Giant

Mohamed Moussa (University of Cambridge)

Impartiality, Democratic Values and the EU's Federal Boundary?

Chair: **Nika Bačić Selanec** (University of Zagreb)

Discussants: **Monica Claes** (Maastricht University) and **Tamara Čapeta** (Court of Justice of the EU)

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 16:15 ROUNDTABLE

EU Values in Context: Internal and External Challenges

Dario Čepo (University of Zagreb)

Gareth Davies (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

Adam Łazowski (University of Westminster/College of Europe)

Snježana Vasiljević (University of Zagreb)

Chair: **Lynn Hillary** (University of Amsterdam)

Wednesday, 22 April 2026

8:30 – 10:00 PANEL 3: SAFEGUARDING AND ENFORCING VALUES

Values in Times of Crisis: EU Institutions, Policy Instruments, and the Politics of Values

Anna Fiorentini (University of Bologna)

Upside-Down Guardianship: Commission's Breaches of EU Values under Emergency Governance

Jaime Luque Lora (Maastricht University)

Same Breaches, Different Verdict: Why the Enforcement of EU Values Through Conditionality Can Produce Different Outcomes

Jakob Piep (European University Institute)

Linking EU Values to Civil Society Funding? A Critical Examination of the 2025 Strategy for Civil Society

Chair: **Antonija Ivančan** (University of Zagreb)

Discussant: **Adam Łazowski** (University of Westminster/College of Europe)

10:00 – 10:30 **Coffee break**

10:30 – 12:00 **PANEL 4: VALUES BEFORE COURTS**

The Limits of Judicial Protection of EU Values

Dániel G. Szabó (Free Vote Foundation)

Enforcing the Value of Democracy: The Missing Arbiter

Rita Aroso Duarte (Maastricht University)

Upholding the Rule of Law at Different Speeds? The EU Courts' Response to Rule of Law Threats at National and EU Levels

Adelina Marini (KU Leuven)

National Judges as Quasi-Privileged Applicants in Article 263(4) TFEU Actions for Annulment of Rule of Law-Related Acts

Chair: **Davor Petrić** (University of Zagreb)

Discussant: **Zdeněk Kühn** (Charles University Prague)

12:00 – 14:00 **Lunch and departure**

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