



# Annual Conference of the European Forum of the Legal Professions

## The Media and the Legal Professions: Trust in the Judiciary Requires Trust in the Media

### Enhancing Cooperation between Two Pillars of Democratic States

Brussels & Online, 1 December 2023 (9:30-17:30 CET)

#### Speakers

**Judit Bayer**, associate professor of media law and international law at the Budapest Business School / **Patrick Gielen**, judicial officer, secretary of the International Union of Judicial Officers (UIHJ) / **Maria Gkana**, judge of the Greek Council of State, former member of the Executive Board of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ) / **Wolfgang Lämmer**, Honorary President of the Europäische Union der Rechtspfleger (E.U.R.) / **Vasko Magleshov**, journalist at Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN) / **Andrea Moravčíková**, Vice-President of the Supreme Court of Slovakia / **Reinhard Müller**, editor at the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung / **Jean-Philippe Rageade**, Director of the Academy of European Law (ERA) / **Sabine Matejka**, EAJ Vice-President / **Andrada Persu**, lawyer member of the Executive Board of EYBA / **Pierre-Dominique Schupp**, vice-president of CCBE / **Kees Sterk**, senior judge, professor of European Administration of Justice at the Maastricht University / **Viktor Vadász**, Director of Programmes of the Academy of European Law (ERA) / **Dirk Voorhoof\***, professor emeritus at Ghent University / **Dorota Zabłudowska**, judge of the Gdańsk-Południe District Court

\*invited

#### PARTNERS



#### REGISTER NOW!



European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)  
Réseau européen des Conseils de la Justice (RECJ)



NATIONALS OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURTS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
NÉES AUX ÉTATS PRÉSIDENTS DES COURS SUPRÊMES DE JUSTICE DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE



# Programme

## Friday, 1 December 2023

09:00 Registration of participants

09:30 Welcoming the participants  
**Jean-Philippe Rageade**

### Keynote speeches

09:35 The relationship between media reporting and public trust: Manipulation and fake news  
**Judit Bayer**

Journalistic ethics and the challenges journalists encounter when covering legal matters  
**Reinhard Müller**

10:25 Discussion

10:40 Coffee Break

### Roundtable discussion on the image of justice in media reports

Moderated by **Sabine Matejka**

- 11:00 **Interventions**
- The institutional communication strategies of the judiciaries
  - The importance of accurate media reporting for both the lawyer and client
  - The image of court staff and bailiffs within and outside the judiciary
  - Professional journalists and influencers
  - Responsible reporting versus click-bait journalism

Discussion

**Panellists**  
**Nicola Canestrini**  
**Maria Gkana**  
**Wolfgang Lämmer**

12:30 Lunch Break

### Interventions on responsible press reporting

Chaired by **Pierre-Dominique Schupp**, vice-president of CCBE

14:00 The influence of the media on certain court cases, and the transparency of the judiciary  
**Dirk Voorhoof**

How can media influence a fair trial  
**Andrea Moravčíková**

What do journalists need from legal professionals for responsible press reporting  
**Vasko Magleshov**

Discussion

15:10 Coffee Break

### Roundtable discussion on the common interests of journalists and legal professionals in a rule-of-law crisis

- 15:30 **Interventions**
- Rule-of-law backsliding, in particular, attacks against freedom of the press and independence of the judiciary
  - How to raise the voice of the legal professionals in a rule-of-law crisis
  - How bailiffs and court staff interact with the public
  - Social media and how the new generation can shape a positive image of the legal professions?

Discussion

**Panellists**  
**Dorota Zabłudowska**  
**Patrick Gielen**  
**Andrada Persu**  
**Kees Sterk**

17:00 Closing words  
**Viktor Vadász**

For programme updates: [www.era.int/?132359&en](http://www.era.int/?132359&en)  
Programme may be subject to amendment

## ABOUT THE STAKEHOLDERS:

The **European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)** unites the national institutions in the Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature, and which are responsible for the support of the Judiciaries in the independent delivery of justice.

The **Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)**, founded in 1960, is an international non-profit association which has been, since its creation, at the forefront of advancing the views of European lawyers and defending the legal principles upon which democracy and the rule of law are based.

The **European Association of Judges (EAJ)** is one of the four regional groups of the International Association of Judges. The IAJ was founded in Salzburg (Austria) in 1953. It is a professional, non-political, international organisation, bringing together national associations of judges, not individual judges, approved by the Central Council for admission to the Association.

The **Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)** is an organisation founded in the year 2000. Its membership comprises national associations, representing administrative judges from Member States of the European Union and the Council of Europe and individual members, being administrative judges from those countries in which such associations do not exist.

**ACA-Europe** is a European association composed of the Court of Justice of the European Union as well as the Councils of State and the supreme administrative jurisdictions of each of the members of the European Union.

The **Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States** was formed in 2004. It provides a forum through which European institutions are given an opportunity to request the opinions of Supreme Courts and to bring them closer by encouraging discussion and the exchange of ideas.

The **European Union of Judicial Officers (UEHJ)** is an international association created in 2016 in close coordination with the International Union of Judicial Officers. UEHJ aims to represent, promote and ensure the interests of the judicial officers within the (candidate) member states of the European Union. The association includes 22 member and 2 observer member countries.

The **European Union of Rechtspfleger (EUR)** is an association of 14 professional organisations from 13 states of the European Union. The objective is to improve the effectiveness and proximity of justice and to harmonise legal systems. For this purpose, the EUR has developed a model of a European profession, which is based on the professions of Rechtspfleger that were originally created in Germany and Austria.

## Main focus of discussion

- Public confidence in the image of justice and the legal professions
- What are best practices to improve the relationship between legal professionals and journalists?
- What roles do legal professionals and journalists have in public education? How to shape the attitude of the future generation?
- Responsible reporting from the courtroom
- The common destiny of journalists and legal professionals in a rule of law crisis
- What effect will digitalisation have on journalism?
- How can legal professionals interact with the public at institutional and individual levels and what are the limitations?
- How can the media shape the public appearance of the legal professions? How to attract people on legal topics?
- Is there an effective alternative way of communication to protect journalists and the legal professions from political pressure?

## ABOUT THE FORUM

The EU Forum of the Legal Professions is an initiative that aims to launch a structured dialogue among the representations of legal professions in Europe, where common challenges and concerns can be addressed and analysed, and a joint position can be formulated. This is an inter-professional platform of exchange, a collaborative and evolving project between the legal professions, where the Academy of European Law plays the role of a facilitator. We aim to organise an event every year, where the latest trends and most relevant issues of common interest can be discussed by the members of the Forum.



# European Forum of the Legal Professions

Brussels & Online,  
1 December 2023



## Who should attend

Judges, prosecutors, court staff, private lawyers, EU officials, journalists

## Fee

Participation onsite: 125 EUR  
Participation onsite for members of the Forum: 0 EUR  
Participation online: 0 EUR

## Language

English

## Event Number

023D155

## Hybrid format

Online participants can take the floor or address written questions to the panel through a live chat in Zoom. The link will be provided after registration.

## Website

[www.era.int/?132359&en](http://www.era.int/?132359&en)

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## REGISTER NOW!

### Participation onsite



### Participation online

