



**Constitutional Court of the  
Republic of Latvia**

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**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**‘SUSTAINABILITY AS A  
CONSTITUTIONAL VALUE:  
FUTURE CHALLENGES’**



*15–16 September 2022*

**PROGRAMME**

## Thursday, 15 September

### **Arrival of delegations**

*Aula Magna of the University of Latvia  
19 Raiņa Blvd., Riga*

08.45–17.00 **Coffee**

*Room No. 105 (next to Aula Magna)*

09:00–09:30 **Registration of participants**

*Vestibule, University of Latvia*

09:30–09:45 **Opening of the Conference**

*Aula Magna of the University of Latvia*

Mr **Aldis Laviņš**, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Latvia

09:45–10:15 **Keynote speech ‘Fundamental rights in the digital environment – the need for a new constitutional framework’**

**H.E. Mr Egils Levits**, President of the Republic of Latvia

## 10:15–12:15 Panel discussion I

### **Sustainability of democracy: how to prevent threats to democracy in a democratic way?**

- *the role of constitutional courts in ensuring a balance between the protection of fundamental rights (in a broader sense, not only freedom of expression but also, for example, the right to vote) and the need to prevent (mitigate) various threats to democracy (such as fake news and the public being misled)*

### **Key speakers**

- Ms **Pauliine Koskelo**, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights
- Mr **Heinrich Amadeus Wolff**, Justice of the Federal Constitutional Court of Germany
- Mr **Artūrs Kučs**, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Latvia
- Mr **Serhiy Holovaty**, Acting Chief Judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine

### **Discussion**

- Ms **Danutė Jočienė**, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Lithuania
- Mr **Jiří Zemánek**, Justice of the Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic

**Chaired by Mr Edvīns Danovskis**, Docent at the Department of Constitutional Law, Faculty of Law, University of Latvia

12:15–12:45 **Performance by the Youth Choir ‘Kamēr...’**

*Aula Magna of the University of Latvia*

12:45–13:15 **Official photo**

*Aula Magna of the University of Latvia*

13:15–14:45 **Lunch**  
*Restaurant 'Kolonāde'*  
*26 Brīvības Blvd., Riga*  
<http://kolonade.lv/lv/>

## 15:00–17:00 Panel discussion II

### **Sustainability of fundamental rights: adapting fundamental rights to the age of modern technology**

- *is there a need for new fundamental rights (such as the right to the internet)?*
- *protection of fundamental rights in the age of modern technology – the right to inviolability of private life (data protection), freedom of expression; is there a need for a new international/constitutional framework or could a dynamic interpretation of the existing framework be applied?*

#### **Key speakers**

- Ms **Ineta Ziemele**, Judge and President of the Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Union
- Ms **Herdis Kjerulf Thorgeirsdóttir**, Vice President of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission)
- Ms **Irēna Kucina**, Vice President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Latvia

#### **Discussion**

- Mr **Heiki Loot**, Justice of the Supreme Court of Estonia, Member of the Constitutional Review Chamber
- Mr **Andrej Abramović**, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Croatia

**Chaired by Mr Kristaps Tamužs**, Head of the Legal Department of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Latvia

17:00 **End of the first day of the conference**

## Friday, 16 September

### **Arrival of delegations**

*Aula Magna of the University of Latvia*  
*19 Raiņa Blvd., Riga*

10.00–13.00 **Coffee**  
*Room No. 105 (next to Aula Magna)*

**Environmental sustainability: a political choice or a matter of fundamental rights?**

- *in recent years, several national courts (e.g. the courts of France, the Netherlands and Germany) have assessed whether the measures taken by states have been sufficient to prevent climate change and whether a person has the fundamental right to require a state to take the necessary measures to ensure environmental sustainability; similar issues are relevant in a number of cases that have already been examined or will soon be heard before the European Court of Human Rights. These rulings raise questions about the role of the courts in ensuring environmental sustainability, and the limits of the courts' jurisdiction*
- *a related topic is the normativisation of the right to a benevolent environment*

**Key speakers**

- Ms **Dineke de Groot**, President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Ms **Helen Keller**, Vice President of the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Mr **Fabien Raynaud**, Reporter General, Vice-president of the Reports and studies section of the Council of State of France
- Ms **Anita Rodiņa**, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Latvia

**Discussion**

- Mr **João Pedro Caupers**, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Portugal
- Mr **Rajko Knez**, Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia

**Chaired by Mr Jānis Pleps**, Docent, Head of the Department of Theory and History of Law, Faculty of Law, University of Latvia

**12:30–12:50 Concluding remarks of the conference**

Ms **Sanita Osipova**, Professor at the Department of Theory and History of Law, Faculty of Law, University of Latvia

**12:50–13:00 Closing of the conference**

Mr **Aldis Laviņš**, President of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Latvia

**13:15–14:30 Lunch**

*Restaurant 'Snob'  
6 Raiņa Blvd., Riga*

*Departure of participants*

