

Procedural Law Unit 5th Annual Symposium

Judicial Independence and
Liberal Democracy Under Threat:
The Challenge of Implementing the
ELI Mt Scopus Standards on
Judicial Independence

10-12 December 2025



UNIC | Procedural
Law Unit



Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Until 20:00	Arrival and Registrations
20:00-22:30	Official cultural programme and Dinner*

Thursday, December 11, 2025

UNESCO Amphitheatre, University of Nicosia

08:30-09:00	Arrival and Registrations
09:00-09:30	Opening Session

Chair	Nicolas Kyriakides, Assistant Professor, Director, Procedural Law Unit, University of Nicosia Chair, JIWP Young Leadership Section Despina Kyprianou, Head, Academy of the Law Office of the Republic of Cyprus Prof. Achilles Emilianides, Dean, School of Law, University of Nicosia Michalis Vorkas, President, Cyprus Bar Association Prof. Pascal Pichonnaz, Fmr. President, European Law Institute (online) Nicolaas Bel, Deputy Head of Unit, Justice Policy and Rule of Law, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission (online) Prof. Shimon Shetreet, President, JIWP, Co-Chair, Procedural Law Unit, Hebrew University of Jerusalem
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09:30-11:00	Universal Challenges of Judicial Independence and Liberal Democracy
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Chair	Prof. Fryderyk Zoll, University of Osnabrueck & Jagiellonian University
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Thursday, December 11, 2025

UNESCO Amphitheatre, University of Nicosia

09:30-11:00

**Universal Challenges of Judicial
Independence and Liberal Democracy**

Prof. Marieta Safta, Titu Maiorescu University

Undermining Judicial Independence Through Policy and
Perception: The Romanian Context in European Context

Prof. Graham Zellick, Fmr. Vice Chancellor,
University of London

"Secret State" and Judicial Independence

Prof. Alexander Trunk, University of Kiel

Judicial Independence in Eastern Europe

Prof. Daniela Piana, University of Bologna

Courts and Memory: Dramatic Events and Radical Conflicts
(online)

Prof. Matthias E Storme, KU Leuven

The Challenge of Maintaining the Separation of Powers

Achilleas Demetriades, Advocate

Appointment of the Judiciary in Cyprus

11:00-11:15

Coffee Break

11:15-12:45

**Role of the Judiciary in Modern Era and
Promoting Independence of Judges**

Chair

Justice Vincent A. De Gaetano, Fmr. Chief Justice,
Malta, Fmr. Justice, ECtHR

Justice Valentina Pavlicic, President, Supreme Court
of Montenegro

Judicial Role in Defending Judicial Independence

Prof. Amnon Reichman, University of Haifa

Contemporary Challenges of Judicial Independence:
Technology and Other Issues

Thursday, December 11, 2025

UNESCO Amphitheatre, University of Nicosia

11:15-12:45

**Role of the Judiciary in Modern Era and
Promoting Independence of Judges**

Prof. Galf-Peter Calliess, University of Bremen

Prof. Takis Tridimas, Director, Luxembourg Centre for
European Law, University of Luxembourg

Reflections on Liberal Democracy (online)

Prof. Stephanie Shaelou, Head, School of Law,
University of Central Lancashire Cyprus (UCLan)

Prof. Christos Clerides, Frederick University Cyprus

12:45-14:00

Lunch Break

14:00-15:30

**The Selection, Promotion, and
Evaluation of Judges**

Chair

Prof. Alexander Trunk, University of Kiel

Prof. Fryderyk Zoll, University of Osnabrueck &
Jagiellonian University

Illegal Judicial Appointments and
Judicial Independence

Dr. Caroline Expert-Foulquier, Secretary General, JAR,
University of Limoges

Role of the Judiciary in Administration of Justice

Dr. Serhii Kravtsov, Luxembourg Centre for
European Law, University of Luxembourg

Independence in the Context of EU Enlargement: Assessing
Ukraine's Implementation of the ELI Mt Scopus European
Standards of Judicial Independence

Prof. Giuseppe Franco Ferrari,
Milano Bocconi University

The New Bill for the Separation Between Judges and
Prosecutors in Italy

Thursday, December 11, 2025

UNESCO Amphitheatre, University of Nicosia

15:30-15:45

Coffee Break

15:45-17:15

**Judicial Ethics and Accountability and
other Fundamental Values of the
Justice System**

Chair

Prof. Graham Zellick, Fmr. Vice Chancellor,
University of London

Judge Natasa Plavsic, Constitutional Court, Serbia

Prof. Philippe Jogleux, European University Cyprus

George Kontis, Assistant Professor, National &
Kapodistrian University of Athens

Andrea Danuser, Senior Advocate,
General Secretary, JIWP

Judges and Political Parties - Swiss Perspectives

Prof. Mikhail Antonov, Higher School of Economics
(HSE University)

Martin Sabelli, Attorney

17:15-18:30

Legal Reforms and Democracy

Prof. Shimon Shetreet, President, JIWP, Co-Chair,
Procedural Law Unit, Hebrew University of
Jerusalem

Chair

Prof. Ruti Teitel, Director, Institute for Global Law,
Justice and Policy, New York Law School

Judicial Independence and Democracy Preservation -
Militant Democracy.

Prof. Haim Sandberg, Management College
Judicial Protection of Private Property in Complex Context

Thursday, December 11, 2025

UNESCO Amphitheatre, University of Nicosia

17:15-18:30

Legal Reforms and Democracy

Hiram Chodosh, Vice President, JIWP,
Claremont McKenna College (online)

Discussants

Prof. Maimon Schwarzschild, University of San Diego

Dr. Elina Asimakopoulou, Visiting Professor,
Neapolis University

Concluding
remarks

Nicolas Kyriakides, Assistant Professor, Director,
Procedural Law Unit, University of Nicosia
Chair, JIWP Young Leadership Section

After 18:30

Formal Conference Dinner

Friday, December 12, 2025

09:00

Culture and Sightseeing Tour of Cyprus

Organisers



JIWP



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