

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

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

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

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 Demetriadis, 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

11:15-12:45

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

Prof. Gralf-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

15:30-15:45	Coffee Break
15:45-17:15	Judicial Ethics and Accountability and other Fundamental Values of the Justice System
Chair	<p>Prof. Graham Zellick, Fmr. Vice Chancellor, University of London</p> <p>Judge Natasa Plavsic, Constitutional Court, Serbia</p> <p>Prof. Philippe Jougleux, European University Cyprus</p> <p>George Kontis, Assistant Professor, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens</p> <p>Andrea Danuser, Senior Advocate, General Secretary, JIWP</p> <p>Judges and Political Parties - Swiss Perspectives</p>
	<p>Prof. Mikhail Antonov, Higher School of Economics (HSE University)</p> <p>Martin Sabelli, Attorney</p>
17:15-18:30	Legal Reforms and Democracy
Chair	<p>Prof. Shimon Shetreet, President, JIWP, Co-Chair, Procedural Law Unit, Hebrew University of Jerusalem</p> <p>Prof. Ruti Teitel, Director, Institute for Global Law, Justice and Policy, New York Law School</p> <p>Judicial Independence and Democracy Preservation - Militant Democracy.</p> <p>Prof. Haim Sandberg, Management College</p> <p>Judicial Protection of Private Property in Complex Context</p>

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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
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Friday, December 12, 2025	
09:00	Culture and Sightseeing Tour of Cyprus

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