
SOFIA UNIVERSITY - MARKING MOMENTUM FOR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFER

International Scientific Conference ‘Legal Imaginaries of Crisis and Fear’

9 November 2024

New Conference Hall, Main Building (Rectorate) of the University of Sofia ‘St. Kliment Ohridski’

8:30 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 9:30 Opening speeches

- **Prof. Dr. Maria Stoicheva**, Leader of the SUMMIT EUVaSc research group
- **Prof. Dr. Martin Belov**, Organizer of the conference, editor of the conference volume and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Law of the University of Sofia ‘St. Kliment Ohridski’

9:30 - 11:00 Panel I. Fear Constitutionalism: Epistemological, Semiotic, Semantic, and Heuristic Approaches to Dark Emotions in Constitutions and Constitutional Law

Moderator: **Mario Kresic** (University of Zagreb, Croatia)

- **Martin Belov** (University of Sofia ‘St. Kliment Ohridski’, Bulgaria) Dark Constitutionalism: Shaping Dark Constitutional Imaginaries through Dark Constitutional Politics on the Basis of Dark Constitutional Anthropology
- **Marta Soniewicka** (Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland) Is it the End of the World as We Know it? The Heuristics of Fear and Apocalyptic Visions in Politics
- **Emilia Musumeci** (University of Teramo, Italy) “Nothing Spreads Like Fear”. From the Government of the Plague to the Crime of Contagion

Discussion

11:00 - 12:00 Panel II. Affectual Constitutionalism and the Collective Emotional Self-Identification

Moderator: **Martin Belov** (University of Sofia ‘St. Kliment Ohridski’, Bulgaria)

- **Richard Sherwin** (New York Law School, USA) – Constitutional Over-Belief: Affective Intensity as a Function of Legitimation
- **Larry Catá Backer** (Pennsylvania State University, USA) Emotive Semiotics in Collective Meaning Making - Signification of Preambular and Extraconstitutional Texts

Discussion

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12:00 - 12:30 Coffee break

12:30 - 14:00 Panel III. Dark Constitutional Memories, Memory Politics of Fear, and the Emotions of Constitutional Transition and Social Transformation

Moderator: **Richard Sherwin** (New York Law School, USA)

- **Mario Kresic** (University of Zagreb, Croatia) – Politics of Fear and Social Transformation Through the Lens of Legal Politics
- **Mirosław M. Sadowski** (University of Strathclyde, UK) (Re)Invention of Memory. Constitutional Narratives in Central European – Sombre or Luminous?
- **Sabarish Suresh** (University of Singapore) Trauma, Melancholia and the Law (online presentation)

Discussion

14:00 - 15:30 Lunch break

15:30 - 17:00 Panel IV. International and Transnational Imaginaries of Crisis and Fear

Moderator: **Mirosław M. Sadowski** (University of Strathclyde, UK)

- **Jean D'Apremont** (Sciences Po, France and University of Manchester, UK) Crisis Affects in the International Legal Discourse (online presentation)
- **Vesselin Popovski** (Jindal Global Law School, India and Sofia University, Bulgaria) Terrorism as Imaginary: Creating Politics of Fear
- **Shalvi Ponwar** (Jindal Global Law School, India) Climate Alarmism and Denialism

Discussion

17:00 - 17:30 Coffee break

17:30 - 18:30 Panel V. Images of Fear

Moderator: **Emilia Musumeci** (University of Teramo, Italy)

- **Carolin Behrmann** (Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany) Constitution of Fear in Legal Spaces
- **Massimo Leone** (University of Torino, Italy) Fear Faces (online presentation)

Discussion