

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

**RULE OF LAW – BETWEEN CONSTITUTIONAL TRANSITION AND
DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING.
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES**

Date: Saturday, October 23, 2021

09:00-09:30 **Registration. Coffee and refreshment drinks to be offered in the lobby**

09:30-10:00 **Opening of the conference**

Representative of KAS Headquarters (tbc)

*Thorsten Geissler, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Bulgaria
and*

*Prof. Dr. Martin Belov, Vice Dean of the Law Faculty,
University of Sofia `St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria*

Panel I. Socio-Legal Perspectives on Rule of Law in Democracies in Transition

Moderator: Prof. Angela Di Gregorio (University of Milan)

10:00- 11:30 **The Rule of Law as Constitutional Imaginary and Value: a critical perspective**

Prof. Jiří Přibáň

University of Cardiff, UK Sociology of the Rule of Law

Constitutional Imaginaries in Post-Communist Democracies in Transition

Prof. Martin Belov

Vice Dean of the Law Faculty, University of Sofia 'St. Kliment
Ohridski, Bulgaria

**Rule of Law and Constitutionalisation of Memory Politics in
Central and Eastern Europe**

Prof. Uladzislau Belavusau, T.M.C. Asser Instituut, Faculty of Law,
University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Discussion

12.00-12.30 **Coffee break**

Panel II. EU Perspectives on Rule of Law

Moderator: Prof. Martin Belov, Vice Dean of the Law Faculty, University of Sofia 'St.
Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria

12:30 – 14:00

**Protecting the Rule of Law: Internal and External Challenges
for the European Union**

Prof. Thomas Christiansen

LUISS 'Guido Carli' University, Rome, Italy

**Rule of law crisis and the constitutional 'awareness' of the
EU: the role and concept of 'Eastern Europe' in one of the
most challenging crisis that have affected the EU in the last
decade**

Prof. Angela Di Gregorio

University of Milan, Italy,

**Causality and Normativity: The Evolution of Rule of Law
Conditionalities in EU Enlargement**

Prof. Bogdan Iancu

University of Bucharest, Romania

The Rule of Law Crisis in the European Union – problems and solutions in the context of the Republic of Bulgaria

Prof. Hristo Hristev

University of Sofia `St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria

Discussion

14:30 - 16:00

Lunch

Panel III. Constitutional Courts as Key Players in Constitutional Politics and Their Impact on Rule of Law

Moderator: Prof. Hristo Hristev, University of Sofia `St. Kliment Ohridski

16:00 – 17:30

Constitutional Limits on Legal Interpretation Imposed by the Principle of Rule of Law

Prof. Martin Borowski

University of Heidelberg, Germany

Constitutional Review in a State Pretending to be Ruled by Law

Prof. Monika Florczak-Wator

Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland

Constitutional Court as a Law-Maker: the Bulgarian Case

Prof. Aleksandar Tsekov

University of Sofia `St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria

Discussion

17.30 - 18.00

Coffee break

Panel IV. Rule of Law and Its Crisis – a Value-Based Perspective

Moderator: Prof. Monika Florczak-Wator (Jagiellonian University in Cracow, Poland)

18:00 – 19:30 **Rule of Law and Balance of Rights in the COVID-19 Pandemic**

Prof. Tanja Cerruti

University of Torino

Material Justice and Formal-Procedural Rule of Law:

Conceptual Asymmetries

Prof. Stiliyan Yotov

University of Sofia `St. Kliment Ohridski,

**Rule of Law and the Bulgarian case of Post-Communist
Secularism**

Prof. Simeon Groysman

University of Sofia `St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria

Discussion