

HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE



2021 PORTUGAL.EU



European Commission

in collaboration with
UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA

Rule of Law in Europe

17 - 18 MAY

Convento de São Francisco (Coimbra, Portugal)



17 May



9.00 | 9.30

Opening Session

- **Manuel Machado**, Mayor of Coimbra
- **Amílcar Falcão**, Rector of University of Coimbra
- **Francisca Van Dunem**, Minister of Justice of Portugal
- **Didier Reynders**, European Commissioner for Justice
- **Augusto Santos Silva**, Minister of State and Foreign Affairs of Portugal



9.30 | 11.00

Session 1

The role of civil society for upholding the rule of law

This panel will discuss the role of civil society to uphold the rule of law and the ways to involve citizens in decision making.

Moderator: José Manuel Aroso de Linhares, Coimbra University, Faculty of Law

- **Juan Fernando López Aguilar**, Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the LIBE Committee (pre-recorded message)
- **Stef Blok**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands
- **Caroline Fennell**, Chair of European Network of Human Rights Institutions (VTC)
- **Berber Biala-Hettinga**, Senior Executive Officer of Amnesty International (VTC)
- **Pepijn Gerrits**, Executive Director, The Netherlands Helsinki Committee
- **Dulce Lopes**, University of Coimbra, Faculty of Law



11.15 | 12.45

Session 2

The role of European and national courts for upholding the rule of law

This panel will address the role of domestic and international courts as standard-setting institutions and conflict-resolution adjudicators (focus also on the implementation of judgments).

Moderator: Paulo Pinto de Albuquerque, Catholic University of Portugal, Faculty of Law

- **Robert Spano**, President of the European Court of Human Rights
- **Koen Lenaerts**, President of the European Court of Justice (VTC)
- **António Joaquim Piçarra**, President of the Supreme Court of Justice of Portugal
- **Karoline Edtstadler**, Federal Minister for the EU and Constitution at the Federal Chancellery of Austria (VTC)
- **Frank Clarke**, representing Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts (VTC)
- **Pedro Caeiro**, University of Coimbra, Faculty of Law
- **Pierre -Dominique Schupp**, Vice-President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (VTC)
- **José Manuel Quelhas**, University of Coimbra, Faculty of Law



14.30 | 16.00

Session 3

Communicating the rule of law

It will explore the impact of the rule of law in citizens' lives / exercise of rights and the importance of sharing good practices.

Moderator: Pedro Benevides, Journalist

- **Mark Ellis**, Executive Director of International Bar Association IBA (VTC)
- **Filippo Donati**, President of the European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (VTC)
- **Rui Cunha Martins**, University of Coimbra, Faculty of Liberal Arts
- **Michael Meyer-Resende**, Executive Director at Democracy Reporting International (VTC)
- **Elena Calistru**, President of Funky Citizens
- **Alexandre Soveral Martins**, University of Coimbra, Faculty of Law



16.15 | 17.30

Session 4

The rule of law under the Lisbon Treaty

Moderator: Mariana Martins Pereira, Lawyer

- **Nuno Piçarra**, Judge at the Court of Justice of the European Union (VTC)
- **Ana Gaudêncio**, University of Coimbra, Faculty of Law
- **Elzbieta Chojna-Duch**, University of Warsaw
- **Alessandra Silveira**, University of Minho, School of Law (VTC)
- **András Jakab**, University of Salzburg

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12.00

Closing Session

- **Michael Roth**, Minister of State for Europe at the Federal Foreign Office, Germany
- **Gašper Dovžan**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia
- **Vera Jourová**, Vice-President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency (VTC)
- **Ana Paula Zacarias**, Secretary of State for European Affairs of Portugal