

ACTIVITY REPORT

September 2024 - September 2025



The 18th Anniversary of the EPLO

*Amendment Protocol of the Agreement establishing the
EPLO in Italy signed with the Italian Government*

REGIONAL OFFICES - BRANCHES

EPLO Athens Headquarters

18th Anniversary of the EPLO in Athens

EPLO celebrates 18 Years of Milestone Achievements at the Roman Agora

19 June 2025, Roman Agora



Mr. Alessandro Giuli, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic



Dr. Lina Mendoni, Minister of Culture of the Hellenic Republic



H.E. Ambassador P. Cuculi, Professor S. Flogaitis EPLO, V. Ypsilantis, Member of the Hellenic Parliament, H.E. P. Pavlopoulos, former President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr. D. Kalogeropoulos, Member of the Hellenic Parliament, Mr A. Giuli, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic and N. Kaklamanis, President of the Hellenic Parliament.

The European Public Law Organization (EPLO) celebrated its 18th anniversary as an International Organization with a distinguished cultural commemorative event held at the historic Roman Agora in Athens. The event brought together prominent figures from Greece, Italy, and the international diplomatic community to honor nearly two decades of the EPLO's commitment to promoting public law and governance.

The celebration was graced by the presence of the distinguished speakers, **Dr. Lina Mendoni**, Minister of Culture of the Hellenic Republic, and **Mr. Alessandro Giuli**, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic. The event was also

honored by the attendance of **Mr. Nikitas Kaklamanis**, President of the Hellenic Parliament, **H.E. Prokopios Pavlopoulos**, former President of the Hellenic Republic, **Mr. Notis Mitarakis**, Member of the Hellenic Parliament, deputy parliamentary representative of the New Democracy Party, **Ms. Nayia Grigorakou**, Member of the Hellenic Parliament representing the opposition (PASOK KINAL party).

The EPLO was particularly honored by the presence of His Eminence **Archimandrite Fr. Michail Stathakis**, Head of the Holy Church of St. George, representing His Beatitude Ieronymos II, Archbishop of Athens and All Greece.

From the Italian delegation, **H.E. Mr. Paolo Cuculi**, Ambassador of the Italian Republic to Greece, and a number of prominent members of the Italian community in Greece among others, **Ms. V. Della Porta**, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute, **Professor E. Papi**, Director of the Italian Archaeological School of Athens, **Ms. V. Sole**, Director of the Italian School in Athens, etc. further demonstrating the strong and timeless ties between EPLO and Italy. Also present was **Professor Bernardo Giorgio Mattarella**, Director of the EPLO Rome Office.

Ambassadors and senior diplomatic representatives from numerous embassies also attended, further underlining the international support for EPLO's mission. The event was attended by academics, jurists, governmental officials and several representatives of independent authorities.

A highlight of the ceremony was the prior signing of an Agreement for the extended presence of the EPLO in Italy between the EPLO and the Italian Republic, symbolizing a deepening of strategic cooperation. This agreement paves the way for the expansion of EPLO's activities and institutional presence in Italy, reinforcing an already close and productive partnership.



S.Sclein, Embassy of Italy in Athens, B. Mattarella, Director, EPLO Office Rome, P. Cuculi, Ambassador of Italy to the Hellenic Republic, A. Giuli, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic



Mr. George Andreou and celebrated vocalist Ms. Korina Legaki



**Professor Bernardo Giorgio Mattarella
Director, EPLO Office Rome**



Mr. Alessandro Giuli, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic



The event was concluded by a short piano recital by the acclaimed composer Mr. George Andreou and celebrated vocalist Ms. Korina Legaki, adding an artistic touch to the formal proceedings.

EPLO establishes its presence in Italy **19 June 2025, Roman Agora, Athens**

As the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) commemorated its 18th anniversary, a historic milestone was marked by the signature of the Amendment Protocol regarding the Agreement between the EPLO and the Government of the Italian Republic, that establishes a wider presence of the EPLO in Rome and Venice, two pivotal cultural and political centers of Italy and Europe, symbolizing a significant evolution in the Organization’s global footprint and strategic mission.

The agreement was signed during a formal ceremony at the EPLO’s premises at the Roman Agora in Athens, by **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis**, EPLO Director, and **Mr Alessandro Giuli**, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic; in the presence of H.E. **Paolo Cuculi**, Ambassador of Italy to the Hellenic Republic.



Mr. Alessandro Giuli, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic and EPLO Director, Professor Spyridon Flogaitis.

This agreement represents far more than the opening of new offices. It marks a powerful alignment between the EPLO’s mission to promote democratic governance, the rule of law, and institutional development, and the Italian Republic’s commitment to supporting international cooperation in these critical areas. By establishing a permanent presence in Italy, the EPLO gains a stronger operational base from which to expand its activities across Southern and Western Europe and further integrate with key European and Mediterranean policy networks.

The Italian Government’s decision to host EPLO offices reflects deep trust in the Organization’s long-standing efforts towards the dissemination of legal expertise, civic education, and capacity building. Italy’s support reaffirms the value it places on the role of multilateral institutions in shaping governance models rooted in transparency, human rights, and legal accountability.

Through this strengthened partnership, the EPLO envisions a series of high-impact outcomes: increased academic and institutional cooperation of the EPLO’s European Law and Governance School (ELGS) with Italian universities and think tanks; joint conferences and training programs in the fields of law, governance, and public administration; new platforms for youth engagement and civic participation; and the enhancement of cultural diplomacy efforts via its Venice office.

Looking forward, this development ushers in a new chapter for the EPLO—an era of enhanced strategic reach,

collaborative influence, and regional relevance. It underscores the transformative power of international partnerships built on shared values and mutual respect. With Italy as a dedicated ally, the EPLO is poised to scale new heights in advancing its mission to build more resilient institutions, inclusive governance systems, and informed societies worldwide.



(Right) Mr. Alessandro Giuli, Minister of Culture of the Italian Republic and EPLO Director, Professor Spyridon Flogaitis (Left), Professors G. Siouti and Th. Antoniou, EPLO Executive Committee members, B. Mattarella, Director, EPLO Rome Office, E. Kopsidi, ELGS Faculty, distinguished guests.

Cabo Verde signs an Agreement with the EPLO and welcomes an EPLO Branch in its territory 01 April 2025, EPLO Roman Agora of Athens

An Agreement was signed between the Republic of Cabo Verde, represented by the Minister of Justice, **Ms. Joana Gomes Rosa Amado**, and the EPLO, represented by its Director, **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis**, which foresees that Cabo Verde becomes an EPLO Member State and establishes an EPLO Regional Branch in Cabo Verde.

The Agreement ceremony was attended by a Cabo Verde delegation, consisting of the Minister of Justice, H.E. the Ambassador of Cabo Verde to the UN in Geneva, **Ms. Clara Delgado**, and **Mr. Julio Mascarenhas**, Legal Advisor to the Minister. On behalf of EPLO, the participants were **Ambassador P. Kalogeropoulos**, **Judge Luis María Díez-Picazo**, the Dean of the European Law and Governance School, **Ms. P. Spiliopoulou**, Director General of Education, EPLO, **Mr. I. Politis**, Journalist, **Ms. S. Manioudaki**, Director of Marketing and Communication, **Ms. A. Fiumi**, Director of the Events and Missions Office, and **Ms. K. Stamatekou** from the Legal Department of the Organization.



Ms. Clara Delgado, the Ambassador of Cabo Verde to the UN in Geneva, Professor Spyridon Flogaitis EPLO Director, Ms Joana Gomes Rosa Amado, the Minister of Justice of Cabo Verde and Mr. Julio Mascarenhas, Legal Advisor to the Minister



Agreement signed between the Minister of Justice of Cabo Verde, Ms. Joana Gomes Rosa Amado and the Director of EPLO Professor Spyridon Flogaitis.

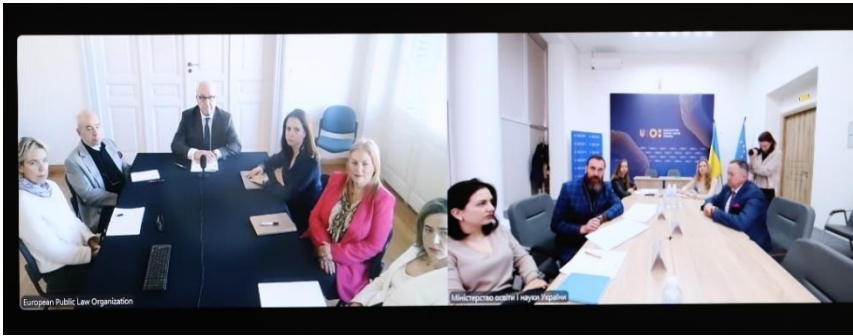
The agreement outlines the framework for establishing an EPLO Regional Branch in Cabo Verde, ensuring a solid foundation for EPLO's initiatives and collaborative efforts in the country. This strategic development marks a significant milestone for both parties, reinforcing Cabo Verde's commitment to international cooperation and the promotion of the Rule of Law.

The establishment of the EPLO Regional Branch in Cabo Verde opens the door to a range of impactful initiatives in the field of the Rule of Law and educational

development. It also presents a **unique opportunity for EPLO to expand its presence and activities in West Africa, fostering regional engagement and promoting legal and institutional excellence.** The Minister, **Ms. Joana Gomes Rosa Amado**, and the Cabo Verde delegation, during their visit, discussed potential areas of cooperation with the EPLO Directors of Departments and had the chance to attend the ELGS's Graduation ceremony that took place on the 3rd of April 2024.

EPLO establishes an Office in Ukraine

18 March 2025, Ministry of Education, Ukraine, and EPLO, Roman Agora, Athens



The European Public Law Organization (EPLO) is proud to announce the signature of an agreement with the Government of Ukraine, marking the establishment of an EPLO Office in the country.

This momentous agreement was signed during an online meeting that took place at the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science,

by **Mr. Oksen Lisovyi, Minister of Education and Science**, in the presence of **Mr. Yurii Voloshyn, EPLO Board Member**, and the online presence of **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis, EPLO Director**.



An online meeting took place at the Ministry of Education and Science, attended by Ukraine's Minister of Education and Science **Mr. Oksen Lisovyi**, in presence of the EPLO Board Member **Yurii Voloshyn**, and the online presence of **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis, EPLO Director**.

The agreement was handed over by the EPLO Board Member **Yurii Voloshyn**, a few days later at EPLO Athens, to **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis**, EPLO Director. This marks a significant step forward in strengthening cooperation between the two parties.



The agreement handed over by the EPLO Board Member **Yurii Voloshyn** a few days later at EPLO Athens

Ukraine ratifies the Headquarters Agreement 15 July 2025

The Parliament of Ukraine ratified the Headquarters agreement, thus establishing an EPLO Branch in Kyiv. This opens the door to a range of impactful initiatives, including: strengthening legal standards in alignment with European and international best practices; enhancing democratic institutions to promote good governance and the rule of law; training highly skilled legal professionals equipped for the challenges of a modern legal landscape; Supporting the growth of civil society institutions, essential for Ukraine's reconstruction and democratic future. The EPLO is honored to stand alongside Ukraine during this transformative period and is looking forward to a dynamic and fruitful collaboration.

EPLO Board of Directors Meeting 2024 12 September 2024



With the presence of representatives of States, Universities, Public Authorities, and International Organizations and Members of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO), the annual meeting of the EPLO Board of Directors took place a day before the EGPL Annual Reunion, at the **EPLO premises in Sounion, Greece.**

35th European Group of Public Law Annual Reunion 13-14 September 2024

The 2024 Annual Reunion of the European Group of Public Law (EGPL), themed “**A Changing Europe in a Changing World,**” took place at the EPLO premises at Legrena, Sounion. For the 35th consecutive year, public law academics, high court judges, and public law practitioners from all over the world gathered for the Reunion of the European Group of Public Law, which serves as the European Scientific Council of the EPLO. The Conference topic



was examined through four sessions. The first session explored the theme of “World Security”, the second of “The EU as a Financial Intermediary”, and the third session the theme of “The Rule of Law in the European Union”. Workshops were part of the fourth session.

Thesis Prize

During the Conference, the Thesis Prize, an award offered by the EGPL to the best doctoral or postdoctoral thesis characterized by its European dimension, was granted. The 2024 Thesis Prize was awarded jointly to two candidates: Ms **Alezini Loxa** for her thesis entitled “*Sustainability and EU Migration Law: What Place for Migrant’s Rights?*” and to Ms **Valentina Golunova**, entitled “*Silenced by Default: Algorithmic Content Moderation and Freedom of Expression in the European Union*”. The ceremony for the awarding of the 2023 Thesis Prize took place during the EGPL Reunion of 2024. The Prize was awarded jointly to two candidates: Moritz Scheramm (connecting online) and Rodolphe Royal. Professor Juli Ponce granted their Certificates.



The Thesis Prize Committee convening to award the 2024 Thesis Prize.

EPLO Rome Office

The EPLO Rome Office undertakes a comprehensive series of activities aligned with the core pillars of the EPLO. Its activities include the following:

- **Educational Activities:** As the headquarters of the European Law and Governance School, the Rome office serves as a central hub for education and training in European law and governance.
- **Organization of Events and Conferences:** The Rome Office oversees the local coordination and hosting of events and conferences. Conferences are conducted in collaboration with the other entities of the EPLO.

- **Research Management and Program Development:** Situated within one of the National Roman Museum's buildings (Palazzo Altemps), the EPLO Rome Office dedicates significant resources and efforts to managing research activities. Particular emphasis is placed on scientific initiatives concerning Public Powers and Culture.
- **Institute for Global Health Emergencies Response (IGHER):** The EPLO Rome Office hosts the Institute for Global Health Emergencies Response (IGHER), further expanding its scope to include critical research and policy initiatives addressing global health crises.
- **European Journal of History and Culture (EurJHC):** The EurJHC, a biannual edition operated through the EPLO Institute for Humanities and Culture "Nicos Svoronos", is a core component of the Rome Office's activities, engaging with the cultural narratives of various nations across centuries.

International Library of Public Law (Justinian Project)

October 2024 – February 2025 – ongoing

A key project under the Rome Office's umbrella is the Justinian Project, led by **Professor Sabino Cassese**, former judge of the Constitutional Court of Italy and current President of the EPLO's European Scientific Council. This ambitious undertaking involves the translation into English of seminal works by public law scholars from continental Europe spanning the last two centuries. The goal is to introduce these foundational legal texts to the international academic community, thereby sharing the most distinguished contributions of European legal thought with a broader and younger audience.

Throughout 2024–2025, the **Justinian Project** has continued to grow as a flagship initiative of the **EPLO Rome Office**, with the ambition to create an **International Library of Public Law**. The project seeks to translate into English seminal works of **Administrative Law, Constitutional Law, and Public Law**, originally published over the past two centuries in various continental European languages.



Justinian Project- Special Committee in Palazzo Altemps Courtyard (Rome)

Launched by the **EPLO Board of Directors** in **September 2023** and inspired by the legacy of Emperor Justinian - who made Roman Law accessible to future generations - the project addresses a crucial academic need: ensuring that the foundational texts which shaped national legal traditions do not remain confined to their original linguistic communities. The **Justinian Project Special Committee**, chaired by

Professor Sabino Cassese (Emeritus, *Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa* and former Judge of the Italian Constitutional Court), brings together distinguished scholars from five major European legal traditions: **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis** (Director of EPLO, Greece), **Professor Bernardo Giorgio Mattarella** (Director of EPLO Rome Office, LUISS University, Italy), **Professor Francisco Paes Marques** (Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal), **Professor Elisenda Malaret y García** (University of Barcelona, Spain), **Professor Thomas Perroud** (Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas, France), **Professor Hans-Christian Röhl** (University of Konstanz, Germany).

The Committee held its inaugural meeting in February 2024, at the EPLO Rome Office located in Palazzo Altemps, and has since worked through a series of remote meetings from Fall 2024 to Spring 2025 in order to outline the editorial methodology and finalize the selected materials for the first volumes. The book series, currently under review by Hart Publishing, will include translated texts of landmark books, articles, and judicial decisions—curated either thematically or by country—and introduced by critical essays authored by experts familiar with both the source tradition and the Anglo-American legal culture.

The project aims to: safeguard and disseminate Europe's legal heritage, provide tools for comparative legal studies, foster a shared vocabulary across legal cultures, and promote intercultural academic dialogue within the field of Public Law. The first volumes, including contributions from Italy, France, and Spain, are in preparation. The

first publication is expected in 2026. With this initiative, the EPLo reaffirms its commitment to building intellectual bridges across Europe and beyond, ensuring that core legal traditions remain alive and accessible for future generations of scholars.

The EPLo Rome Office collaborating with Luigi Sturzo Institute and participating at an event on Democracy and Global Challenges

16 May 2025, Palazzo Baldassini, Rome

As part of a growing institutional collaboration between the **European Public Law Organization (EPLo)** and the **Luigi Sturzo Institute**, and thanks to the valuable support of **Ms. Alessandra Gatta**, Head of Research and Development at the Institute, members of the EPLo and ELGS staff participated in the event on *Democracy and Global Challenges*.



Members of the EPLo Rome Office and ELGS staff and students alongside Ms. Alessandra Gatta, representative for the Luigi Sturzo Institute at the historic Palazzo Baldassini in Rome.



On behalf of the EPLo and ELGS staff, Mr. Dimitris Tsaknis expressed his gratitude to the Luigi Sturzo Institute for their warm welcome

The event provided an important opportunity to reinforce the ties between the two institutions and laid the groundwork for future joint initiatives, aiming to promote academic cooperation, legal research, and cultural activities. This collaboration marks a further step in EPLo's mission to develop strategic partnerships with leading Italian institutions engaged in the promotion of public law, governance, and European legal heritage.

EPLo Regional Branch in Portugal, Cascais

The EPLo Regional Branch in Portugal has continued its active contribution to the promotion of the rule of law and its academic development, along with strengthening the relationship and cooperation with the Portuguese authorities and International Organizations accredited in Lisbon.

Throughout this year, the Director of the Branch, **Ambassador a.h. Ioannis Metaxas**, has attended institutional meetings with high-officials of the Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Representation of the European Commission in Portugal, the King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue (KAICIID), the Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), the Representation of the Ismaili Imamat in Portugal, the Embassy of Egypt in Portugal and the Municipality of Cascais.

Organization of the 6th Session of the Global Rule of Law Commission and the International Conference “The Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice”

17–19 January 2025, Casa de Santa Maria, Cascais

The Branch successfully organized the **6th Session of the EPLo Global Rule of Law Commission (GRoLC)**, undertaking and managing all logistical aspects of the Session, with the valuable support of the Municipality of Cascais. The Branch also provided scientific support and contributed substantially to the research of the EPLo GRoLC and the preparation of its 3rd Rule of Law Report on Africa.

Following the 6th Session of the GRoLC, the Branch proceeded with the organization of the **International Conference on “The Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice”**, which was hosted at the Casa de Santa Maria in Cascais, within EPLo Cascais premises. This Conference was organized in close cooperation with the Municipality of Cascais and with the scientific support of the EPLo Institute of Global Rule of Law (IGRoL), also based in Cascais.

Support of the EPLO European Law and Governance School (ELGS) – Implementation of the Master’s degree on Global Rule of Law and Democracy

The Branch remained engaged in supporting and promoting the ELGS academic initiatives. In particular, the Branch actively supported the organization and the implementation of the Master’s degree on Global Rule of Law and Democracy, in cooperation with the EPLO/ELGS and the EPLO IGroL. Besides, it contributed substantially to the delivery of lectures for the Master’s students and participated in the institutional visits to various Lisbon-based International Organizations, to enhance the practical experience of the students. This Master’s program was offered for the first time in Portugal, Cascais, during the academic year 2024-2025, at the ELGS Campus at the Mosteiro de Santa Maria do Mar, a facility provided generously by the Municipality of Cascais.

Visit of the EPLO Director to the students of the Master’s degree in Cascais 25 November 2024

The Branch organized a visit by EPLO’s Director **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis** to the Master’s students at the ELGS Campus in Cascais. During the visit, Professor Flogaitis emphasized on Africa’s strategic importance for EPLO and Europe, highlighting EPLO’s role as a Permanent Observer to the United Nations General Assembly. During this visit, the Director had the opportunity to refer to the preparation of the 6th Session of the EPLO GRoLC and its 3rd Rule of Law Report on Africa. The meeting featured meaningful discussions, reinforcing the degree’s international and cross-cultural dimensions.



Prof. S. Flogaitis, EPLO Director, with Mr. N. Voulgaris, ELGS Professor, and the students of the ELGS MA in GRoLD

Visit of the EPLO Director-General for Education to Cascais 28-29 April 2025, ELGS Campus in Portugal (Mosteiro de Santa Maria do Mar)

The Branch arranged a courtesy meeting between **Ms. Panoraia Spiliopoulou**, EPLO Director-General for Education, and representatives of the Municipality of Cascais. During the meeting, the Director-General warmly thanked the Municipality for its generous support to the ELGS Master’s degree, particularly in terms of accommodation, equipment, and day-to-day assistance, while informing the Municipality about the planned launch of the new LLM in International Organizations during the 2025-2026 academic year. The discussions also focused on potential activities between the Municipality and the EPLO, particularly in the context of the Municipality’s designation as “European Capital of Democracy” for 2026. During her visit, Ms. Spiliopoulou also met with students of the Master’s degree, engaging in discussions on their academic progress and future professional plans.

Visit and Lectures by the Director of the EPLO Regional Branch 19 November 2024 and 22 January 2025, ELGS Campus in Portugal (Mosteiro de Santa Maria do Mar)

Ambassador a.h. Ioannis Metaxas, Director of the Branch, delivered two guest lectures to the students of the Master’s degree Global Rule of Law and Democracy in the 2024–2025 academic year. His first lecture referred to the evolution of the Roman legal traditions in Europe, public law, and the development of modern constitutional and administrative law. His second lecture focused on the principles and practice of diplomacy in international relations, covering important topics such as diplomatic law, the Vienna Conventions, diplomatic immunity, and the role of diplomacy in addressing global challenges. Both lectures provided students with valuable insights into the practical applications of legal and diplomatic work in today’s world.



Ambassador a.h. Ioannis Metaxas, Director of the EPLO Regional Branch in Portugal, with the students of the ELGS MA in GRoLD

Promotion of the new LLM in International Organizations and the Master’s degree “Global Rule of Law and Democracy”

The Branch contributed to disseminating information about the LLM in International Organizations to Embassies, Diplomatic Missions, and International Organizations accredited in Lisbon, along with the Master’s degree on Global Rule of Law and Democracy

Participation in the University Fair Event FUTURÁLIA Lisbon 2025 25-27 March 2025

The Branch and the EPLO IGRoL actively participated in **FUTURÁLIA 2025**, representing the EPLO/ ELGS at Portugal's biggest education and career fair event. The Branch shared valuable information with students and prospective applicants who visited the EPLO/ ELGS booth and discovered the wide range of postgraduate programs, including the above-mentioned two programs.

Internship Programs 23-27 September 2024

The Branch welcomed a group of students from China as part of the EPLO/ ELGS internships program. It organized a thorough session, presenting the EPLO's GRoLC and its significance, as well as the wide range of activities that the Branch has been implementing and supporting since its establishment. The group of students participated in an in-depth discussion and research on the rule of law and democratic governance. This internship provided the students with a theoretical and practical experience within an international working environment.

Participation in the 10th UNAOC Global Forum 25-27 November 2024, Cascais, Portugal

The Branch, along with the EPLO IGRoL, participated in the 10th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), which was held at the Estoril Conferences, Cascais, under the theme "United in Peace: Restoring Trust, Reshaping the Future — Reflecting on Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity". The Forum was attended by high-level political leaders, representatives of international and regional organizations, religious leaders, civil society, academia, as well as youth organizations to address global issues pertinent to peace and security. The Branch's involvement underlined its commitment to promoting intercultural dialogue and collaboration.

EPLO Global Rule of Law Commission- The Cascais Commission

Under the aegis of H.E. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President of the Portuguese Republic

In cooperation with the United Nations system, the EPLO established the Global Rule of Law Commission (GRoLC) as a part of its Global Rule of Law Initiative, announced in 2019 at the UN Headquarters. The aim is to develop a comprehensive global conceptualization of the Rule of Law concerning UN Universal Values and diversity. The Commission is open for participation to all nations to provide advice and expertise on Rule of Law issues if requested. The Commission is scheduled to produce an annual report on the Rule of Law, presented yearly at the Sixth Committee of the UN General Assembly. The GRoLC now comprises 22 personalities from around the world, following the principle of geographical representation. It is chaired by Professor **Giuliano Amato**, former President of the Italian Constitutional Court and former Italian Prime Minister. This past year, the GRoLC welcomed two new



EPLO Global Rule of Law Commission, Municipality of Cascais, 6th Session

members: **Ms. Miriam Meßling**, Judge of the Federal Constitutional Court of the Federal Republic of Germany, and **Mr. Paul Gowder**, Professor at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, Chicago.

During the 2024-2025 period, the GRoLC, also known as the Cascais Commission, held its 5th, 6th, and 7th Sessions. The 5th Session took place online (11 October 2024), during which the *2nd Report on North America and Canada* was approved. The 6th and the 7th were focused on its *3rd Rule of Law Report dedicated to Africa*. After the conclusion of the 6th Session, an International Conference on “The Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice” was held at the Casa de Santa Maria in Cascais, within the premises of the EPLO Regional Branch in Portugal.

6th Session



EPLO Global Rule of Law Commission, Municipality of Cascais, 6th Session

17-18 January 2025, Cascais, Portugal

The 6th Session of the EPLO GRoLC took place in Cascais, Portugal. Its distinguished members were brought together once again to continue their work and deliberate on their 3rd Rule of Law Report on Africa. This high-level Session was organized by the EPLO Regional Branch in Portugal, with the generous support of the Municipality of Cascais, and marked another milestone in the Commission’s effort to strengthen legal governance, promote international cooperation, and address key challenges in Africa. The discussions during the Session focused on the *3rd Rule of Law Report*, which will be presented at the UN General Assembly (6th Committee) in due time, during 2025. The Report provides a comprehensive analysis of the legal frameworks, governance structures, and constitutional transitions across Africa, emphasizing the importance of judicial independence, separation of powers, and access to justice as fundamental principles of stability and development.

The Session was opened by **Professor Giuliano Amato**, President of the EPLO GRoLC, who highlighted the Commission’s commitment to addressing Africa’s unique legal and governance landscape. **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis**, Director of the EPLO, underscored the Commission’s role and the importance of the EPLO’s Permanent Observer Status at the United Nations. During the Session, the EPLO GRoLC members reviewed the first draft of the Africa Report. They stressed the importance of cooperating with the African Union and regional legal institutions to ensure that the Report accurately presents the African perspective, based on the contributions from the African members of the EPLO GRoLC. Additionally, they mentioned the need for alignment with Agenda 2063 to promote constitutionalism, institutional resilience, and the connection between the Rule of Law and international peace and security. Concluding, **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis** reaffirmed the EPLO’s commitment to promoting the Rule of Law globally, while **Professor Giuliano Amato** praised the collaborative efforts of the EPLO GRoLC members.

The high-profile members of the GRoLC were brought together to discuss its *3rd Report on the Rule of Law on Africa*, which elaborates on the legal frameworks, governance, and constitutional transitions across the African region. It is worth mentioning that the EPLO GRoLC adopted its *2nd Rule of Law Report on North America and Canada* on **11 October 2024**, and submitted it to the UN General Assembly Sixth Committee on **15 November 2024**.

7th Session

5-6 July 2024, Municipality of Cascais, Sala do Futuro

The 7th Session of the GRoLC was held online, ensuring the active participation of its distinguished members worldwide. In continuation of the discussions of its 6th Session, the GRoLC further deliberated the *3rd Rule of Law*

Report on Africa which was finalized. The Report will be presented at the UN General Assembly (Sixth Committee) in due time during 2025.

International Conference on the Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice 18-19 January 2025, Casa de Santa Maria, Cascais



The International Conference on “The Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice” brought together distinguished judges, university professors, and legal scholars to discuss the challenges to judicial independence and governance in contemporary democracies. It was held on 18-19 January 2025 at Casa de Santa Maria in Cascais, in the premises of the EPLO Regional Branch in Portugal. This Conference was organized by the EPLO Regional Branch in Portugal with the valuable support of the Municipality of Cascais and the scientific support of the EPLO Institute of the Global Rule of Law. It took place right after the 6th Session of the EPLO Global Rule of Law Commission, which was hosted at the Municipality of Cascais on 17-18 January 2025. This Conference had a specific focus on judicial independence, providing a broader platform for international dialogue and collaboration.

Professor Spyridon Flogaitis, President of the EPLO Board of Directors and EPLO Director, and **Ms. Margarida Lima Rego**, Dean of the NOVA School of Law, delivered the opening remarks of the Conference.



Ms. Margarida Lima Rego,
Dean, NOVA School of Law



Ms. Maria Lúcia Amaral,
Ombudsperson of the
Republic of Portugal



Professor Spyridon Flogaitis,
President of the EPLO Board of
Directors and EPLO Director

Professor Flogaitis highlighted the crucial role of international organizations in supporting judicial independence and strengthening the Rule of Law globally. **Dean Lima Rego** stressed that legal education plays a vital role in preparing future judges and legal professionals, ensuring they are dedicated to upholding the constitutional principles.

Ms. Maria Lúcia Amaral, then **Ombudsperson of the Republic of Portugal**, through her keynote speech, emphasized the fundamental role of judicial independence in upholding democracy and human rights. The Conference featured four thematic sessions, during which the rapporteurs underscored the need for international legal cooperation and cross-border dialogue to protect judicial independence in an era of rising global challenges:

- 1- “Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice”: Eminent judges and professors emphasized the necessity of strong legal and institutional safeguards to maintain judicial independence. The discussions also included the risks and implications of court-packing strategies, as well as the growing impact of social media and artificial intelligence on the judiciary.

- 2- “Map of Contemporary Attacks on the Judiciary”: Political interference, court underfunding, and threats to judicial autonomy were addressed, referring to case law of the European Court of Human Rights, the European Court of Justice, and case studies from Brazil and Chile.

- 3- “Social and Cultural Conditions of Judicial Independence”: The discussions focused on the role of legal traditions, public trust, and the balance between judicial authority and democratic accountability.

4- The “General Conclusions” session was chaired by **Professor David Feldman**, Emeritus Professor from the University of Cambridge. **Ms. Teresa Violante**, Director of the EPLO Institute of the Global Rule of Law, presented a comprehensive overview of the Conference’s main insights.

The Conference included perspectives from different legal traditions and governance models, leading to a truly global discussion on judicial independence. It hosted 52 participants from 21 nationalities, including judges, legal scholars, diplomats, government officials, and civil society representatives. Among them, 66% were from Europe (41% from Portugal, 25% from the rest of Europe), 20% from Africa, and 14% from the Americas and Asia. At the same time, the presence of the students from the EPLO ELGS Master’s degree on “Global Rule of Law and Democracy” highlighted the importance of engaging future specialized legal professionals.

This International Conference reaffirmed EPLO’s commitment to strengthening the Rule of Law globally through institutional cooperation, legal education, and policy initiatives.



Session 1: “Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice”, International Conference



Session 2: “Map of Contemporary Attacks on the Judiciary”



Session 3: “Social and Cultural Conditions of Judicial Independence”



General Conclusions session

Brčko, Bosnia and Herzegovina Regional Office

The Regional Office of the EPLO in Brčko, Bosnia and Herzegovina, located at the **Brčko National School of Public Administration (BNSPA)**, is re-established as a hub for legal and public administration development in the Western Balkans. Strategically located in Brčko District, Brčko Office is committed to supporting the legal and institutional reform processes in Bosnia and Herzegovina, promoting European public law standards, and facilitating regional cooperation and capacity-building.

Over the past year, the Office in Brčko has initiated the relaunch of its operations, focusing on establishing strategic partnerships and planning key activities in collaboration with local institutions. The Office has now successfully regained access to the building it had prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. After necessary repairs and close coordination with the Brčko authorities, the keys were obtained, allowing the Office to fully resume its activities on-site. This process benefited from strong and constructive collaboration with local authorities, who supported the Office throughout, helping to navigate and resolve prior administrative steps efficiently.

In parallel, all administrative and legal requirements have been completed. Professor **Goran Marković** is officially registered with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina as the Director, enabling the Office to operate fully and legally. These achievements represent a key milestone in restoring the Office’s full operational capacity and strengthening its presence in the Brčko District.

Official Visit to the Government of Brčko District April 2025

In April 2025, Professor **Goran Marković**, Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of East Sarajevo and Director of the Regional Office of the EPLO in Brčko, conducted an official visit to the Government of Brčko District to present the renewed mission of the Office and discuss its forthcoming activities. He was accompanied by **Milica Jevtić**, MA, Scientific and Administrative Officer of the EPLO Office in Brčko.

The EPLO delegation was welcomed by **Mr. Siniša Milić**, Mayor, and **Mr. Anto Domić**, Deputy Mayor of the Brčko District. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce to the district's leadership the goals of the renewed EPLO presence in Brčko and the first activities to be implemented by the Office. These activities will be carried out independently by EPLO, in cooperation with the Government of Brčko District. During the meeting, special emphasis was placed on the planned launch of a School of Public Administration, aimed at providing advanced training and knowledge to civil servants in the Brčko District and beyond, with the involvement of lecturers from across Europe. The participants also discussed the organization of conferences, lectures, and roundtables on a wide range of legal topics, which would serve to foster public debate and support the development of the legal system in the Brčko District and at the national level.



Meeting at the Brčko District Government, April 2025

Professor Marković expressed his appreciation to **Mr. Siniša Milić**, Mayor, and **Mr. Anto Domić** for their continued support, which has been instrumental in reviving the work of the Office. In turn, the district's leadership expressed strong interest in the activities EPLO plans to implement in Brčko.

Regional Branch in South Caucasus, Georgia

Joint event with the Embassy of France and the Franco-Georgian Institute

21 October 2024



In collaboration with the Embassy of France and the Franco-Georgian Institute, the EPLO Regional Branch organized a seminar aimed at popularizing the works of the Frenchman of Georgian descent Michel Mouskhely (Mikheil Muskhelishvili; 1903-1964) - a skillful constitutional lawyer and committed European activist whose academic legacy represents a unique source for comprehending EU legal and institutional aspects. At the seminar, **Ambassador Ioseb Nanobashvili, Regional Director of the EPLO Branch in South Caucasus**, presented Mouskhely's concept of "Undogmatic Federalism" that offers a complete set of techniques for explaining the model of Supranational Administration of the European Union. The seminar was moderated by the French Ambassador to Georgia, **Ms. Sheraz Gasri**. The event was attended by the local diplomatic corps, academia representatives, and local and international students.

Release of the "Seven Steps for Comprehending the European Union - second edition"



In December 2024, the second edition of the guidebook "Seven Steps for Comprehending the European Union" was released in response to the major changes in EU policies toward its eastern neighborhood since 2022. The brutal war in Ukraine fundamentally changed the EU policy towards its South-Eastern neighborhood. Therefore, it became necessary to update the guidebook and introduce significant changes to certain parts. The second addition discusses the



EU enlargement and the EU accession from 2022 onwards, against the background of granting EU candidate status to Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia. The publication is also available [online](#).

Awareness Raising and Career Development Programs

With the ELGS’s active engagement, the Branch created various Awareness Raising and Career Development Programs for Georgian civil servants. In 2024, the Branch created two new programs: “The EU Law-making and EU Legal System” and “EU Regional Policies toward its European Neighborhood after the 2004 Enlargement”. Representatives of state institutions demonstrated particular interest in these programs. In 2025, the Branch plans to further expand its Awareness Raising Programs to various local, professional, and social groups.

US Elections Watch Event



US Ambassador Robin Dunnigan

On the invitation of the **US Ambassador Robin Dunnigan, Ambassador Ioseb Nanobashvili** attended the US Election watch event. Given its importance, the occasion attracted great interest from local governmental institutions, diplomatic missions, and academia.



Prof. Kakha Shengelia, member of the EPLO Board of Directors

Governmental Scholarship Programs for Georgia and Armenia

In 2024, the Branch continued to successfully implement its annual “Scholarship Program” for civil servants. In 2024, officials from various governmental institutions earned Master's degrees in European Law and European Governance at the ELGS. For the 2024-2025 academic year, 20 staff members of the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia enrolled in the “Scholarship program”. For the 2025-2026 academic year, the Branch extended the program to the Republic of Armenia, and, currently, 19 Georgian and Armenian civil servants are preparing to begin their studies in the ELGS.

Joint Event Organized with the Embassy of Latvia

2 April 2025



The EPLO Regional Director, **Ioseb Nanobashvili**, participated in the event for Georgian youth representatives who graduated from the Riga School of Law. The event was organized by the Latvian Embassy in Georgia, and the EPLO Branch was invited as a collaborator. **Ioseb Nanobashvili** handed out to the graduates’ copies of the guidebook “Seven Steps for Comprehending the European Union – Second Edition”. The event was attended by the Ambassadors of the US, Norway, and the Netherlands in Georgia.



Ambassador of Norway, Mrs. Bergljot Hovland, Ambassador of Latvia, Mrs. Edite Medne, Ambassador of the Netherlands, Mrs. Meline Arakelian (in the center)

Qualification Enhancement Program in Athens and Legrena campuses of the ELGS

7-18 July 2025

In collaboration with the LEPL International Education Center of Georgia and the ELGS, the Branch organized a Qualification Enhancement Program on “EU Fundamentals” for 20 municipalities of Georgia at the EPLO headquarters in Athens and the ELGS campus in Legrena, offering an intensive study composed of theoretical discussions and practical exercises.



Professor Korneli Kakachia, Ambassador of France Sheraz Gasri (from left to right)



Recognition of Diplomas of EPLO High Educational Institutions by Georgia

Throughout 2024, the EPLO Branch carried out intensive work to achieve recognition of EPLO diplomas as equivalent to those of Georgian Universities. A respective agreement was drafted and negotiated by the sides. The agreement was signed in Tbilisi and Athens, and ratified by the exchange of Verbal Notes between the MFA of Georgia and the EPLO Branch in Tbilisi. Finally, the agreement was published in the Legislative Herald "Matsne" and entered into force on 1 November 2024. This fact significantly expanded and enhanced the EPLO activities in the country.



Capítulo Brasileiro (Brazilian Chapter)

The Brazilian Chapter of the EPLO collaborates with the **IDP Brazilian Institute** for Public Law in Brasilia. The EPLO-IDP collaboration foresees the academic exchange of students and professors between the two institutions including, in particular, the Organization's branches in Portugal and Italy. The results of this fruitful cooperation provide grounds for positive official relations between Brazil and EPLO **given the admission of Brazil as a member state.**

EPLO MISSIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

EPLO Mission to the UN in New York

The EPLO Mission to the United Nations represents EPLO and serves as the EPLO delegation to the United Nations headquarters in New York. The Mission aims to promote the values of peace, human rights, solidarity, and the rule of law worldwide through a fruitful dialogue of cultures. Following the **resolution A/73/462 "Observer status for the European Public Law Organization in the General Assembly"**, adopted unanimously on 1 November 2018, EPLO was invited to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly. EPLO's appointment to Observer Status was the outcome of a long process initiated under the aegis of Portugal. The Permanent Mission of EPLO to the UN is headed by Permanent Representative and **Ambassador Barbara Faedda, Ph.D.**, who presented her credentials to UN Secretary-General **António Guterres** on **21 May 2019.**

September 2024

The EPLO attended the high-level General Debate of the 79th General Assembly, during which world leaders gathered to engage in the debate under the theme "**Leaving no one behind: acting together for the advancement of peace, sustainable development and human dignity for present and future generations.**"

18 October 2024

During the Sixth Committee plenary meeting, the EPLO legal counselor **Luca Melchionna** reported the first initiatives of the Global Rule of Law Commission since its creation; thereafter, the Commission presented its first Annual Report, covering Europe, to the Sixth Committee members. Before the conclusion of the Sixth Committee work in the frame of the current General Assembly, the Commission circulated its *2nd Annual Report*, covering North America, showing the aim to develop a comprehensive Global concept of the Rule of Law with respect to Universal Values and diversity in a dialogue of civilizations. It was announced during the Global Rule of Law Commission's first international conference at its Headquarters, in Cascais, Portugal, held on 18-19 January 2025, on the topic of "The Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice", one of the most sensitive areas for the respect of the Rule of Law in practice.

14 November 2024

The EPLO, as part of the Global Rule of Law Initiative, organized a side event titled "**Which feasible reforms to strengthen the UN on behalf of the Rule of Law**", linked to the activities and initiatives of EPLO's Global Rule of Law Commission. It was conducted in the presence of **H.E. Miguel Ángel Moratinos**, UN Under-Secretary-General, High Representative of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC). The keynote speaker was the President of the Global Rule of Law Commission, **Professor Giuliano Amato**, former President of the Constitutional Court and former Prime Minister of the Italian Republic. **Professor Larry D. Johnson**, Former Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, United Nations, was discussant along with **Ambassador Andreas Mavroyannis**,



[EPLO Side event titled “Which feasible reforms to strengthen the UN on behalf of the Rule of Law” during UNGA 2024 at the UN New York](#)

Facilitator of the 61st UN General Assembly on Equitable Representation and Increase in Membership of the Security Council. The event was endorsed by 18 states and had the honor of welcoming a great number of esteemed participants. The event was chaired and moderated by **Ambassador Barbara Faedda**.

15 November 2024

The Secretariat of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly circulated the Second Report of the EPLO’s Global Rule of Law Commission (GRoLC) to all Sixth Committee delegates.

7 March 2025

Ambassador Barbara Faedda was invited to attend the Commemoration of International Women’s Day (IWD) 2025 in the U.N. General Assembly Hall. The Observance was opened by **H.E. Mr. Antonio Guterres**, and included statements from **H.E. Sima Bahous**, UN Under-Secretary General and Executive Director of UN Women, and other high-level United Nations dignitaries.

The EPLO legal counsel's office has been closely monitoring the work of the first U.N. High-Level Advisory Board (HLAB) on Artificial Intelligence. Established in 2023, the HLAB issued its first interim report in December 2023, titled "Governing AI for Humanity." This report examines how AI can benefit humanity at the international level. The EPLO legal counsel's office actively engages with AI regulatory frameworks at multiple levels—both private and public—to ensure EPLO's objectives align with evolving AI governance standards.

The EPLO's legal counselor has served as a member of the **Task Force on Artificial Intelligence in 2023 and 2024** and was confirmed in 2025 as a member of the Standing Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies of the New York State Bar Association—the oldest and largest bar organization in the United States. In this capacity, the Committee produced a guidance report for attorneys using AI tools. Additionally, the EPLO's legal counselor was recently appointed to the Advisory Committee on Artificial Intelligence and the NY Courts.

The EPLO Permanent Observer Delegation at the United Nations headquarters will continue its work in this field to serve as a focal point and resource for EPLO institutions, jurists, professionals, and researchers engaged in this critical and timely topic.

EPLO Mission to the UN in Geneva

The activities of the Geneva Office encompass the following key areas:

Participation in the Human Rights Council

EPLO Geneva actively engaged in the Council over a total of sixteen weeks across three sessions. Moreover, there are other parts of the Council taking place not included in the regular sessions, such as Organizational Sessions, UPR (Universal Periodic Review) etc. This involvement includes

- Delivering statements in the plenary on various agenda items, notably including a three-part proposal aimed at “Increasing the efficiency and political relevance of the Council”, submitted to the President of the Council.
- Participating as a panelist in several side events. During this year, **Ambassador George Papadatos**, EPLO Head of Mission to the UN in Geneva was invited to two events organized by the Union Association for Human Rights (UAHR) based in the UAE. At the first event, he delivered a presentation on “**AI and Human Rights**”, which was subsequently published in the *UAE Human Rights Review*. At the second event, he spoke on “**Developments and Achievements in Human Rights in the Gulf Countries, with a focus on the UAE,**” also slated for publication in the same review.

Internship Program

EPLO Geneva administers a streamlined internship initiative designed to familiarize students of international relations, political science, and law with the workings of various Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) and the United Nations. Beyond providing firsthand experience during meetings of assemblies and governing bodies, the program encourages students to develop creative and critical thinking skills through an engaging learning journey.

Social and Cultural Engagements

Ambassador Papadatos represents EPLO in numerous activities, including conferences, academic events, and educational initiatives across different countries, highlighting the diverse scope of EPLO’s contributions.

Strategic Outreach and Partnership Development

Ambassador Papadatos initiated consultations with the Geneva-based ambassador and, subsequently, with the Minister of Justice of Cabo Verde. These efforts resulted in the induction of Cabo Verde as a member of EPLO—making it the first African nation to join the Organization.

High-level Side Event Titled “Sudan in Crisis”

2 July 2025

At a high-level side event during the 59th UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, the EPLO UN Geneva Mission hosted: “Sudan in Crisis: Voices from Beneath the Rubble for Justice and Peace”—a timely discussion on the world’s largest humanitarian catastrophe. Chaired by **Ambassador George Papadatos**, EPLO Head of Mission to the UN in Geneva, the event brought together Mr. **Mongi Hamdi**, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tunisia, former UN Special Envoy to Mali, Ms. **Mona Rishmawi**, UN Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for Sudan, Mr. **Vittorio Oppizzi**, MSF Emergency Coordinator with extensive fieldwork in Sudan and across crisis zones, Dr. **Ezzeddine Zayani**, President, Tunisian Centre for Comprehensive Security Studies, former Ambassador to the African Union. Speakers sounded the alarm on famine, displacement, and war crimes — calling for an end to impunity and a decisive international response to restore peace and civilian rule in Sudan.



Ambassador George Papadatos, EPLO Head of Mission to the UN in Geneva chairing the event.

EPLO Mission to the UN in Vienna

During this period, the EPLO representation to the UN in Vienna participated in all major activities held and/or organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and in all major events and initiatives at the UN and international diplomatic community in Vienna, as well as in other international fora and academic communities. A few selected illustrations follow:

Tanzania Integrity Forum, Dar Es Salaam (organized by the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Center/Ministry of Justice of Tanzania) 19-20 September 2024

Participation of **Ambassador Ugi Zvekić**, Head of EPLO Mission to the UN in Vienna as a key keynote panellist and Chair of several panels.

10th session Conference of the State Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) 14-18 October 2024, UN Vienna

14 October: EPLO statement at the Plenary

15 October: side event “Tackling the Nexus of Organized Crime and Corruption: Strengthening linkages between UNTOC and UNCAC” (organized by Italy and Mexico), panellist

18 October: side event “Civil Society Declaration for effective implementation of UNTO to Prevent and Address Organized Crime” (organized by the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice), panellist.

Promoting International Cooperation and Technical Assistance to Prevent and Address All Forms of Organized Crime 2-4 December 2024, UN Vienna

Participation as a panellist.

67th joint reconvened session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice 5-6 December 2024, UN Vienna

Participant.

UN General Assembly adoption of the UN Cybercrime Convention 24 December 2024, UN New York

Remote participation.

Informal Consultation on the 11th session of the Conference of the State Parties (COSP11) of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) 20-22 January 2025, Doha, Qatar, December 2025, UN Vienna

Participant.

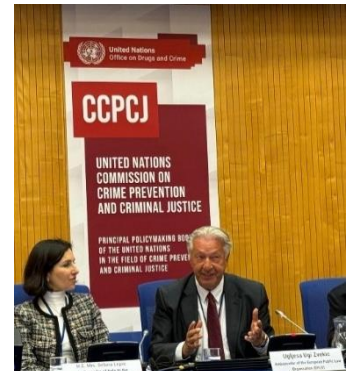
Lecture on “Organized Corruption” at the University of Pisa, Italy 27 February 2025, Italy

Amb. **Ugi Zvekić** delivered a lecture on “Organized Corruption” for the MA in Prevention of Corruption students at the University of Pisa.

EPLO statement at the European Regional Preparatory Meeting for the 15th UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (April 2026, Abu Dhabi, UAE) 25-27 March 2025, UN Vienna

Lectures on “Organized Corruption” and “UN Cybercrime Convention” at the University of Milan 15-16 April 2025, Milan, Italy

Representing the EPLO and the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, Ambassador U. Zvekić delivered two lectures at the University of Milan, one on “Organized Corruption”, and the second on “UN Cybercrime Convention”



Ambassador Ugi Zvekić at the Side event for Victims with the Ambassador of the Italian Republic, Debora Lepra (UNODC), at the UN Convention against Corruption



Ambassador Ugi Zvekić with Amb. David Dondua

34th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice 19-23 May 2025, UN Vienna

19 May: EPLO statement at the Plenary General Debate

19 May: side event “40 Years since the UN Declaration on the Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power” (organized by Italy, co-sponsor EPLO). Panellist

19 May: special event at the Diplomatic Academy of Austria, “How to reinvigorate international criminal justice”, Panellist

23 May: EPLO side event “Civil Society and the UN Reform; from domestic to international justice and back”, Chair

Closing session of the Anti-Corruption Legal Clinic, Law School, University of Tirana, Albania 4 June 2025, Albania

EPLO was a co-sponsor in the event.

Informal Consultation on the 11th session of the Conference of the State Parties (COSP11) of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)

23 June 2025, Doha, Qatar

Participant.

Mission to the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA)



EPLO is a party to the IACA since its foundation in 2011. In 2023, EPLO appointed a Mission to IACA with Ambassador **David Dondua** as its permanent representative. Amb. D. Dondua presented his letter of credence to the Dean of the Academy on 10 April 2023.

The EPLO's permanent representative's role is to follow and participate in the

works of IACA. International anti-corruption legislation and technical assistance and training projects, in particular for developing countries, are an essential part of public law and provide an opportunity to promote good practices and values. They are at the core of the EPLO mandate.

Activities:

20 September 2024 - 14th Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Financial Matters and Other Administrative and Substantive Aspects of IACA Activities;

1 October 2024 - 3rd Intergovernmental Meeting on the Open-ended Intergovernmental Advisory Working Group on Measuring Corruption;

3 October 2024 - First round of informal consultations related to the upcoming session of the Assembly of Parties (AoP);

3 October 2024 – 1st preparatory meeting for AoP (online);

8 October 2024 – Reception at the IACA to meet the new Dean Slagjana Taseva;

24 October 2024 – 2nd preparatory meeting for AoP (online);

30 October 2023 - The 13th session of the Assembly of Parties (AoP) of the International Anti-Corruption Academy - VIC, Vienna. The Assembly of Parties takes place annually and serves as a major forum for Parties to consult on the overall policy of the Academy and other matters of interest under the IACA Agreement;

28 November 2024 - Annual Conference on Global Trends and Challenges in Preventing and Combating Corruption (online);

4 December 2024 - Graduation ceremony of the Master in Anti-Corruption Studies, International Master in Anti-Corruption Compliance and Collective Action, Master in Anti-Corruption and Diplomacy, and Master in Anti-Corruption and Compliance in Spanish, Classes of 2022 – 2024;

9 December 2024 - Webinar to celebrate the International Anti-Corruption Day. It explored the vision for future IACA contributions to global efforts to prevent and combat corruption and promote compliance;

8 May 2025 - Webinar “Artistry in Action: Fighting Corruption Through Art.” The webinar explored the relationship between art and the fight against corruption, with a focus on the lived experiences of those pioneering work in this field;

19 May 2025 – Event: How to Reinvigorate International Criminal Justice. Organized by the EPLO Mission to UN Vienna and hosted by Ambassador **Ugi Zvekić**;

23 May 2025 - "*Integrity and Anti-Corruption in Sport: Modern Challenges and Good Practices*". The side event, organized by IACA and INTERPOL, was held within the framework of the 34th session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Vienna International Centre (VIC);

28 May 2025 – Meeting of an open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Financial Matters and other Administrative and Substantive Aspects of IACA Activities;

26 June 2025 – IACA Open Doors event at IACA premises in Laxenburg;

7 August 2025 – Meeting with Pawar Kumar Sinha, Director of Academic Programs of IACA.

EPLO Special Envoy in Central America

Visit of the EPLO Director to the Republic of El Salvador

3 October 2024

EPLO began its mission in Central America on 1 October 2024, with the appointment of **Ambassador Cosimo Maria Papa** as **Special Envoy** to this region. During this period, various discussions were held with the authorities of countries of Central America, International Organizations, Universities, and Public Institutions.

On 3 October 2024, the EPLO Director, **Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis**, visited the Republic of El Salvador. In this context, he was received by the Director of the ESIAP (The School of Public Administration), **Mrs. Claudia De Larín**, in the framework of cooperation in the areas of governance, public administration, and integrated development. During the meeting, the importance of training public servants in the areas of law, digital economy, computational thinking, and efficient management was discussed. The Director of the ESIAP presented the Report of Work to the EPLO Director, which consolidates the activities carried out in training public servants, and the commitment to digitalizing the State, including the digital economy.

Visit of Prof. Flogaitis to the General Secretariat of the SICA

4 October 2025, San Salvador



Mrs. I. Figueroa and Prof. S. Flogaitis

Prof. S. Flogaitis and the SICA

Prof. S. Flogaitis and President of the Tribunal de Ética Gubernamental Dr. Néstor Castaneda

Prof. Flogaitis held a meeting with the Executive Director of the SICA, **Mrs. Ingrid Figueroa**, to lay the foundations for a fruitful collaboration with the SICA in the field of training and knowledge management in public international law and communitarian law. During his stay in El Salvador, Professor Flogaitis also met the President of the

Tribunal de Ética Gubernamental, **Dr. Néstor Castaneda**, the Magistrado de la Corte Suprema, **Dr. Roberto Calderón Escobar**, and the Ambassador of the Italian Republic, **Dr. Emanuele Rozo Sordini**. In El Salvador, **Prof. Flogaitis** met the Academic authorities of the Schools of Law and International Relations of the Mathias Delgado University and ESEN.



Prof. S. Flogaitis and Magistrate de la Corte Suprema Dr. Roberto Calderón Escobar.



Prof. S. Flogaitis and the Ambassador of the Italian Republic Dr. Emanuele Rozo Sordini



Prof. S. Flogaitis and Amb. C. M. Papa at the School of Law and International Relations of the Mathias Delgado University and ESEN

Visit of the Ambassador Cosimo Maria Papa to the Central American Parliament

26 March 2025, Guatemala City

The EPLO Special Envoy to Central America, **Ambassador Cosimo Maria Papa**, met with the President of the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN), Hon. **Dr. Carlos Hernández**. The meeting focused on the opportunity to sign a cooperation agreement for the creation of a parliamentary training school and cooperation in the field of parliamentary diplomacy.

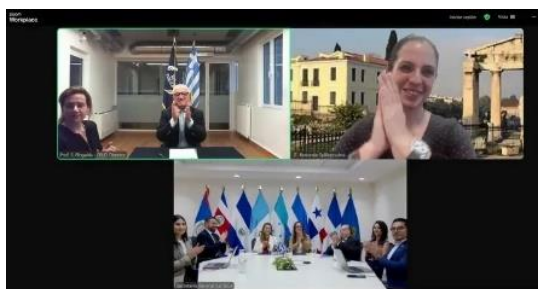


The EPLO Special Envoy to Central America, Amb. C. M. Papa with the President of the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN) Hon. Dr. Carlos Hernández

Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the EPLO and the SICA

15 May 2025, Athens - San Salvador

The EPLO and the SICA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which seeks to strengthen ties of friendship and cooperation in areas of common interest. The points of cooperation are: technical and academic training in the law of Central America, Comparative Law, Regional Integration, Public International Law, and Governance. In addition, the MoU encompasses exchange of experiences and good practices,



promotion of short-term training programs, and development of simulation models of the SICA and the European Union.

The MoU was signed by **Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis**, EPLO Director, and **Mrs. Ingrid Figueroa**, Executive Director of the SICA, in the presence of **H. E. the Ambassador of Costa Rica in El Salvador, Mrs. Lina Ajoy** (representing the Republic of Costa Rica, currently President *Pro Tempore* of the SICA) and the EPLO Special Envoy to Central America, **Ambassador Cosimo Maria Papa**.



INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Memoranda of Understanding & Agreements

First Amendment to the Agreement between the EPLO and the Administrative Court of Thailand

September 2024



National Council of The Prosecution Service (CNMP)

September 2024



Universidad del Rosario (Colombia)



United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

November 2024



Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA) - January 2025



National Bioethics & TechnoEthics Committee

February 2025



Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, acting for the MA in Digital Transformation: e-Diplomacy, e-Campaigning and Digital Law (MA DigiDCL)

March 2025



University of Luxembourg acting for the Law Economics and Finance (FDEF)

April 2025



Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania

May 2025



The European Law Students' Association

May 2025



General Secretariat of the Central Integration System (GS-SICA) May 2025



Regione Lazio



Supreme Court of Mexico





University of Lisbon

July 2025

U

LISBOA

UNIVERSIDADE
DE LISBOA

Eurasian National University (ENU)

July 2025



EDUCATION

European Law & Governance School (ELGS)



ELGS

**EUROPEAN
LAW & GOVERNANCE
SCHOOL**

The European Law and Governance School (ELGS), the International University School of the EPLO, with headquarters in Rome, Italy and campuses in Athens, Greece (main campus), Cascais, Portugal, and Tbilisi, Georgia is committed to preparing today's youth to better serve their nations through an exceptional understanding of Europe, its institutions, and to promote their national interests within the scope of EU.

The ELGS completed its ninth year of classes for the undergraduate degrees, and its eighth year of classes for its postgraduate and research degrees. Classes ran in a hybrid model to ease attendance for students with parallel studies and professional commitments.

Award of the ERASMUS CHARTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

In July 2025, the European Commission granted the Erasmus Charter For Higher Education (ECHE) to the EPLO/ELGS, recognizing its compliance with the rigorous quality standards required for participation in the Erasmus+ program. This milestone achievement enables ELGS to engage in Erasmus+ initiatives, including student/staff mobility, international partnerships, and EU-funded projects. With the ECHE, the ELGS gains a strategic platform to enhance its global presence, elevate academic excellence, and provide life-changing opportunities to students and staff.



Recognition of ELGS Degrees by the Georgian Government

According to the Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the EPLO, officially published on 16 October 2024 in the [Legislative Herald of Georgia](#), the degrees and qualifications earned at EPLO-affiliated higher education institutions, including the ELGS, are recognized in Georgia, as of **1 November 2024**, as equivalent to corresponding qualifications issued by Georgia's Higher Educational Institutions.

2024-2025 Developments

New Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is a policymaking organ that reviews the function and advancement of the ELGS. It convenes once per year at the Headquarters of the ELGS, the Office of the EPLO in Rome and it is composed of renowned personalities.

Honorary President: Prof. Giuliano Amato, Professor and President Emeritus of the Constitutional Court of Italy, former Italian Prime Minister.

President: Prof. Daria de Pretis, Vice-President Emeritus of the Constitutional Court of Italy.

Distinguished members:

Prof. Marie-Claire Ponthoreau, Professor of Public Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Bordeaux

Prof. Víctor Ferreres, Professor of Constitutional Law, Pompeu Fabra University, Kingdom of Spain, University of Texas at the Austin School of Law

Prof. Smatlaev Baurzhan Mamytbekovich, Doctor of Law, Professor, Dean of the Law Faculty, L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, the Republic of Kazakhstan

Prof. Luisa Torchia, Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Roma Tre, Italian Republic

Mr. Foivos Karzis, Journalist, Hellenic Republic

Ms. Nunu Mitskevich, Executive Director, LEPL International Education Centre of Georgia, Georgia

Exmo. Senhor Nuno Piteira Lopes, Vice-Presidente da Câmara Municipal de Cascais, Portugal

Mr. Nuno Rocha dos Santos de Almeida e Vasconcellos, Ongoing Strategy Investments - SGPS, S.A.



Prof. Daria de Pretis, President of the Board of Trustees

New Master in LLM in International Organizations, Cascais Campus

The ELGS is launching a new high-level Master's degree program, "LLM in International Organizations" at the EPLO premises in Cascais, Portugal, starting from the 2025/2026 academic year. This program aims to share the knowledge and expertise accumulated over nearly 20 years of EPLO's involvement in international law and diplomacy. This one-year taught degree program covers critical topics through its up-to-date curriculum, including international organizations (such as the UN, EU, African Union, and WTO), institutional frameworks, dispute resolution mechanisms, human rights law, international economic law, and the evolving role of international organizations in global governance. This Master's provides students with the necessary tools to navigate the complex legal environments of these organizations, understanding the intricate balance between international organizations, diplomacy, and state sovereignty.

New "Interuniversity Master on European and Comparative Public Law", co-organized with Sapienza University of Rome, Italy, and EPLO/ELGS

Following the initial implementation phase developed over the past year, the **one-year Master's program (M2 level) in European and Comparative Public Law** returns in 2026 in its renewed and consolidated form. Born out of a fruitful collaboration between the EPLO Rome Office, the ELGS, and



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Sapienza University of Rome, the program builds on the Memorandum of Understanding signed in January 2024. This joint initiative reflects a commitment to academic excellence and to fostering a multidisciplinary approach to the evolving challenges of public law and governance. Designed for graduates in law, political science, economics and related disciplines, the program offers a unique perspective on the functioning of public institutions across national, European, and global levels. The call for applications will be published in October 2025, with courses starting in mid-February 2026.

New Call for Resident Lecturers

For the 2024-2025 academic year, the ELGS operated with **nine resident lecturers** supported by the international visiting faculty, stemming from renowned universities of the wide network of the EPLO/ELGS and from different professional backgrounds, who offered classes either online or *in situ* with a different approach to teaching topics.

Resident Faculty:

Prof. Nikolas Voulgaris (King's College London, School of Law, UK), **Assoc. Prof. Valentina Rita Scotti** (University of Siena, Italy), **Assoc. Prof. Luca Lantero** (General Director of CIMEA, Italy), **Assoc. Prof. Dora Papadopoulou** (Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen, Germany), **Dr. Daniel Furby** (Queen Mary, University of London, UK), **Dr.**

Eugenia Kopsidi (University of Aix Marseille, France), **Dr. Taygeti Michalakea** (Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences), **Dr. Nicolaos Papadopoulos**, **Dr. Esra Unal** (University of Strasbourg, France).

International visiting faculty:

Dr. Daphne Athanasouli, Senior Lecturer, University of Derby, U.K
Prof. Saulo José Casali Bahia, Federal Judge, University of Bahia, Brazil,
Dr. Florentin Blanc, Director, EPLO Institute for Regulatory Innovation, Delivery and Effectiveness,
Dr. Theodoros Fouskas, Assistant Professor, School of Public Health, University of West Attica, Greece
Dr. Ioannis Georgopoulos, Attorney-at-law, PhD, Düsseldorf, Germany)
Prof. Anastasios Gourgourinis, Athens Law School, Greece
Dr. Ioannis Kaplanis, Economist, Greece
Dr. Livia Lorenzoni, Senior Assistant Professor, Roma Tre University of Rome, Italy
Prof. Esteban Peralta – Losilla, University of Zaragoza, Spain,
Amb. Ioseb Nanobashvili, Regional Director of the EPLO South Caucasus, Georgia
Dr. Fernando Navarro Olivares, Instituto de Estudios Europeos, Spain,
Dr. Nikolaos Petropoulos, PhD in Criminal Justice, City University of New York

Moreover, ELGS ran a selection process for new Resident Lecturers for its campuses in Athens, Rome, and Cascais. More than 80 applications were received and, after careful review and consideration, as well as interviews from a compiled shortlist, **two new prominent scholars** will be added to the ELGS academic personnel starting from October 2025.

Graduation Ceremony

3 April, 2025



The ELGS graduation ceremony for the classes of 2022, 2023, and 2024 took place at the EPLO Premises at the Roman Agora. On this day, we celebrated the completion of studies of 75 graduates, representing up to 12 different nationalities from around the world (Italy, Georgia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Ukraine, Cyprus, Greece, Moldova, Albania, Tunisia, Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, Kenya, Mauritius) and from the following academic levels: Bachelor's degrees: LLB in EU Law, BA in European Law and Governance Studies;

Master's degrees: LLM in European Law, MA in Governance, Master of Studies, LLM in International Economic Law, established by the Academy of International Economic Law and Policy (AIELPO) of the EPLO.

The Dean of the ELGS, Prof. **Luis María Díez-Picazo**, awarded the diplomas. The event was honored by the presence of the Minister of Justice of Cabo Verde, Ms. **Joana Gomes Rosa Amado**, and the Ambassador of Cabo Verde to the UN in Geneva, Ms. **Clara Delgado**, both of whom extended their congratulations to the attendees.

Launch of the European Law and Governance Blog

As part of ELGS's efforts to foster academic engagement and public discourse, the School launched the European Law and Governance Blog, a **new open-access platform** offering PhD and Master's students, as well as ELGS alumni, the opportunity to publish concise policy-oriented contributions on current EU legal and policy affairs. The blog features a range of formats—including policy briefs, book reviews, case law commentaries, event summaries, and short articles—designed to promote accessible, high-quality analysis. All submissions are reviewed by the ELGS Academic Committee to ensure clarity, coherence, and academic rigor before publication. This initiative reflects ELGS's commitment to bridging academic scholarship with real-world policy discussions and to supporting early-career legal scholars in contributing to ongoing European debates.



Study Visit to the Supreme Administrative Court of Portugal

The ELGS successfully launched in 2024-2025 a new Master's degree program on Global Rule of Law and Democracy in Cascais, Portugal, under the auspices and guidance of the **EPLO Global Rule of Law Commission** and with the support of the **Municipality of Cascais** for the premises and the accommodation facilities. The first edition of the Master Program brought together graduate

students from Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, and Somalia. This one-year taught degree program provided students with an in-depth examination of key issues related to the Rule of Law, employing a comparative approach that spanned national, constitutional, and international levels.

As part of their academic curriculum, the students had the opportunity to visit the **Office of the Ombudsperson of the Republic of Portugal, the Supreme Administrative Court of Portugal, the Fiscal and Administrative Tribunal of Almada, the International Office for Migration in Portugal, and the International Dialogue Centre KAICIID**. The students further benefitted from guest lectures and enriching discussions with **Mariana Canotilho**, Judge at the Constitutional Court of Portugal; **Luis Maria Diez-Picazo**, Judge at the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Spain; **Ioannis Metaxas**, Ambassador (ret.) of Greece, Director of EPLO Branch in Cascais; and **Spyridon Flogaitis**, Director of the EPLO.

Scholarship Programs

- Scholarships granted by the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Italian Republic** for the 1-year ELGS study programs (Master of Studies, LLM in EU Law, and MA in Governance) are exclusively offered to Italian nationals selected by the MFA of the Italian Republic, in cooperation with the ELGS. EPLO also offered scholarships to twenty Italian (national or resident) students for studying at the ELGS campus in Athens, both at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

- **Full Scholarships** for citizens from the **Republic of Cabo Verde** were offered for the postgraduate programs that take place at the ELGS campus in Cascais.

- **Full and Partial Scholarships** to young scholars from the **Republic of Sierra Leone** meeting the criteria to join the ELGS, offered both for the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. For the second consecutive year, 10 students from Sierra Leone joined our School, after their selection process and visa approval and attended the courses on our campus in Legrena.

- **Merit-based Scholarships** for the undergraduate and postgraduate level were also offered by the EPLO to a limited number of students coming from EPLO Member countries and other non-European countries, with a special focus on Ukraine. Meetings with the Embassies of these countries to disseminate the scholarships also took place.

- Scholarships were also offered to selected students from partner universities (for online studies) and Greek universities (for *in situ* studies) who wish to **follow parallel studies** in fields of their interest. At the postgraduate level, scholarships were offered to **civil servants from Georgian, Armenian, and Moldovan state institutions**.

- Merit-based **partial scholarships**, both for the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, were also offered to other students of the ELGS.

ELGS Executive Education

The ELGS/EPLO Executive Program is an academically rigorous program, fueled by cutting-edge research and in-depth knowledge. It offers a range of executive education activities, from short courses and customized executive programs for individuals to programs created for organizations.

Qualification Enhancement Program for Local Municipalities of Georgia: “Fundamentals of the EU Study”

7-19 July 2025, EPLO Athens

After the first successful session in 2024, the **International Education Center (IEC) of Georgia**, in collaboration with **the EPLO and the ELGS** co-organized, for the second year in a row, a Qualification Enhancement program for the municipalities of Georgia on “Fundamentals of the EU Study”, with the support of the **EPLO Regional Branch in Georgia**.

Twenty Georgian civil servants were selected by the IEC after an open procedure call to participate in the program.

The program encompassed topics such as: The EU decision-making procedures and an institutional chain of the EU decision-making; the EU unique institutional set-up; European Elections; EU law-making, its implementation and monitoring; legislative competence-sharing between the EU and its member states; EU Judiciary system; EU Enlargement; EU membership criteria and accession stages; EU and its neighborhood after the EU “Big Bang” enlargement of 2004-2007 – Western Balkans vs Post-soviet countries, etc.

Ambassador Ioseb Nanobashvili, Regional Director of the EPLO South Caucasus, Georgia was the main instructor of the program, and ELGS Resident Lecturer, **Dr. Dora Papadopoulou**, was facilitating all the discussions. Interventions were also made by the EPLO Director, **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis**, the Dean of the ELGS, **Luis María Díez-Picazo**, the ELGS Provost and Greek Ombudsman, **Professor Andreas Pottakis**, and the Resident faculty of the ELGS.

Training Programs for the Students of the University of Luxembourg

According to the agreement signed between EPLO and the University of Luxembourg, for the next four years, ELGS is committed to offer educational programs and trainings on, *inter alia*, European Law, to the PhD candidates of the University of Luxembourg who are members of the doctoral training unit in the field of Green and Digital Transitions in the Single Market of the FDEF, either in Luxembourg or in Athens, Rome, or Cascais.

Academy of European Public Law (AEPL)

Now celebrates its 31st session



The Academy of European Public Law celebrated its 30th session last summer and its 31st session this summer, successfully training more than 600 students since its inception. The 2024 AEPL, which was concluded on 18 September 2024, was attended by eighteen students, and seven successfully defended their theses.

Moving onto the 2025 AEPL, the program is held at the EPLO premises in Athens and Sounion, Greece, starting on 25 August 2025 and concluding on 13 September 2025 with the award of Certificates and Diplomas, as every year. This year, twenty students have participated in the study session, and five students are scheduled to defend their theses as part of the AEPL II.LL.M program.

The core instructors of this year’s AEPL session are the following:

Prof. dr hab. Krzysztof Wojtyczek (Jagiellonian University, Kraków): “*International and European Standards of the Rule of Law*”.

Dr. Stavros-Evdokimos Pantazopoulos (Athens University Law School): “*Environmental Protection, Accountability and Climate Justice in Armed Conflict*”

Prof. Andrea Carbone (Sapienza University of Rome): “*Rule of Law and Article 6 ECHR*”.

Prof. Vasco Becker-Weinberg (University of Lisbon): “*Sea level rise: legal and human implications*”.

The AEPL also welcomes one or more annual guest lecturers:

Prof. David Feldman (Emeritus Rouse Ball Professor of English Law, University of Oxford): “*Developing the rule of law in a post-conflict situation: experiences from Bosnia and Herzegovina*”.

Dr. Tamás Molnár (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights): “*How to protect climate migrants*”.

Prof. Anna Khvorostiankina (Eurasia International University, Armenia): “*Rule of Law*”.

Moreover, the Academy launched, for the first time, a dynamic and engaging **debate session** on the “**European Public Law Model EU Parliament**”. This session aims to offer the students a unique opportunity to step into the roles of European policymakers, debating critical European law and policy issues. Students are assigned a fictitious case related to a pressing European issue. Working in teams, students deliberate on the case, draft resolutions, and create position papers, offering practical solutions to the issues at stake. The summer program has also included: Field Trips, social and cultural events, meet-up-with-the-experts session, and participation in the EGPL Reunion.



Prof. Szalai during her open lecture at LUISS

For the second consecutive year, the Director of the EPLO Academy **Prof. Anikó Szalai**, completed a series of visits in Universities in Rome for the presentation of the Academy of European Public Law (AEPL) and the topics related to this year’s theme, i.e., “Global Rule of Law”. Supported by the Judge and President of the AEPL Curatorium, **Marco D’Alberti**, and the ELGS Resident Lecturer, **Valentina Rita Scotti**, Prof. **Anikó Szalai** offered relevant lectures for the students at LUISS University under the coordination of **Prof. Nicola Lupo**, and at Università Degli Studi Roma Tre, welcomed by **Prof. Maria De Benedetto** and **Dr. Livia Lorenzoni**.

Tax and Accounting Academy



Tax and Accounting Academy

The EPLO Tax and Accounting Academy (in brief “Tax Academy”) was founded by the EPLO with a view to promoting research in the area of taxation and accounting, and facilitating the exchange of views on these issues. The Academy aims at setting up a forum for the exchange of ideas on tax and accounting issues among the countries in which EPLO is active, with the ultimate objective of

creating a think tank and a network to promote best practices and cooperation.

The Tax and Accounting Academy, represented by the President of the Academy’s Scientific Committee, **Dr. George S. Mavraganis**, had several meetings in March and April 2025 with the new Chairman and members of the Board of Directors of the Athens Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI). These meetings resulted in a joint strategic cooperation on tax issues with events, exchange of ideas, and publications. In this context, both organizations proposed tax measures to the Government, given the Prime Minister’s speech at the Thessaloniki International Fair in Thessaloniki last September. Joint events on important tax issues, starting from Autumn 2025, are scheduled for the period 2025-26.

Academy of International Economic Law and Policy

Fifth Cohort of LLM in International Economic Law (IEL) 2024-2025



Academy of International Economic Law and Policy

EPLO’s **Academy of International Economic Law and Policy (AIELPO)** is conducting its fifth cohort of its flagship program on International Economic Law (IEL), which started in November 2024, having a total of 6 full-time students coming from **Kenya, Colombia, Jordan and Ukraine**. In this academic year, lecturers from prestigious institutions lectured the students on fundamentals and latest developments in the field of IEL, in particular on trade law and policy. Participants have had the

opportunity to engage in stimulating high-level discussions in class, which reinforces increased market recognition.

Apart from the different academic courses, students have had the chance of developing a research paper, participating in a **moot court**, and develop a project under **TradeLab**, an association of law clinics from prestigious universities from five continents (Georgetown, The Graduate Institute, University of Ottawa, National University of Singapore, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, to name a few, [see here](#)), whereby students develop a consultancy legal project for a beneficiary that can be a government, a producer, an international organization, a regional organization, or even an NGO. For this particular year, the beneficiaries are the Geneva-based Colombian Mission to the World Trade Organization and the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). The program also comprised a career service providing professional guidance to full-time students.

Summer Programs

a) ELGS Global Administrative Law in Practice

“The EU’s response to energy, environmental and military crises”

21-25 July 2025, EPLO Athens and Sounio

The ELGS Summer Intensive Program on **Global Administrative Law in Practice** ran, for the eighth year in a row, welcoming students and teachers from all over the world. The mission of this international program is to provide an interdisciplinary approach to the latest European responses to ongoing crises. The future of the EU as a global institution hinges on its reaction to the current energy, environmental, and military challenges. As the impact of these crises grows, the EU’s democratic legacy and global footprint are put to the test. On the occasion of the publication of two pivotal EU documents—the European Green Deal and the Strategic Compass for Security and Defense—, GAL 2025 discussed how they have been implemented to date and what perception of the EU as a global actor they promote.



2025 Participants for the ELGS Summer Intensive Program on Energy and Military Crises

The School operates at the EPLO’s seaside premises in Sounio, under the Directorship of **Professor Sabino Cassese**, former Judge at the Constitutional Court of Italy, and with the support of **Professor Edoardo Chiti**, a Full Professor of Administrative Law and a Member of the Academic Senate at Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa.

The 2025 Summer session included more than 20 hours of classes, cultural visits, and social events. A one-day field trip to the Regulatory Authority for Energy, Waste and Water (RAAEE), in which the participants were offered a lecture on “Energy & Environmental Crisis: The impact in Greece” was also organized.

The following professors taught on the subjects listed below.

- EU Agenda for economic growth, **Dr. Donato Vese**, Associate Professor at the University of Pisa.
- The EU Facing an Environmental Crisis: Adaptation and Transformation Potentials, **Dr. Eirini Fasias**, Lecturer at the Law Group of Wageningen University & Research.
- The EU as a Promoter of Peace: The Challenge of a Common European Defense, **Prof. Panagiotis Grigoriou**, Professor of International and European Institutions, University of the Aegean.
- Europe’s Energy Crisis, **Prof. Edoardo Chiti**, Full Professor of Administrative Law, Member of the Academic Senate, Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna, Pisa.

b) Migration Summer School

In collaboration with the Mediterranean Migration and Asylum Policy Hub (MedMA)

21 – 25 July 2025, EPLO Athens and Sounio

The 2025 thematic agenda focused on “**Migration Pathways: Rethinking socio-economic mobility in contemporary migration governance**”. For the ninth year in a row, the ELGS conducted the Migration Summer School (MIGSS). This immersive 5-day summer school delved into how migration and refugee governance impact



Study Visit to the Ministry of Migration and Asylum

the lives of millions, with a special focus on EU policies and their implementation in Greece and the Eastern Mediterranean region.

This Summer School aimed to provide participants with an in-depth exploration of the intricate dynamics of migration governance, focusing on the intersection of humanitarian pathways and socio-economic mobility schemes. Through expert-led discussions, field visits, and interactive case studies, this course offered a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience and in-depth

knowledge in a dynamic and critical area of migration studies.

In this week-long course, ELGS counted with the participation of academics and experts from European and International Universities, Institutes and research centers, more specifically:



Markos Karavias/MedMA and Kristine Fabbe/EUI during the lecture of the 1st day of the Migration Summer School 2025

Mr **Angelo Tramountanis**, Researcher, Center for Social Research (EKKE), **Dr. Nadina Cristopoulou**, Co-founder and coordinator of Melissa Network for Migrant Women, Greece; **Prof. Kristin Fabbe**, Director of Executive Education, EUI's Florence School of Transnational Governance; **Theodoros Fouskas**, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health Policy, University of West Attica, Greece; **Eda Gemi**, Associate Professor, Head of the Law Department, University of New York Tirana; **Dr. Dimitris Georgiadis**, Director, General

Secretariat for Vulnerable Person and Institutional Protection; **Erika Kalantzi**, Lawyer, Refugee and Migration Law; **Vasileios Kerasiotis**, Human Rights Lawyer; **Manos Moschopoulos**, Director of Development at EPLO, Senior Advisor to Mediterranean Migration and Asylum Policy Hub (MedMa); **Dr. Maria Papathanasiou**, Adjunct Professor, University of Thessaly, Greece, Scientific Associate, Ministry of Migration & Asylum; **Adla Shashati**, Office Director at Greek Forum of Migrants.

c) Summer Academy “Power Games: Energy Diplomacy and Global Geopolitics in a Changing World” in collaboration with the International Hellenic University (IHU)



30 June-5 July 2025, EPLO Athens

This Summer Academy, co-organized for a third year with the International Hellenic University (IHU), took place at the EPLO premises in Athens. The Summer Academy aimed to explore how energy, as the new currency of global power, is reshaping the traditional boundaries between economics, diplomacy, law, and strategic national interests. Titled "**Power Games: Energy Diplomacy and Global Geopolitics in a Changing World**", this program emerged as a critical platform for understanding the complex and multidimensional landscape of energy geopolitics in the 21st century.



Konstantinos Filis during his lecture on Global Geopolitics during the 1st day of lectures of the Summer Academy

This program included lectures, case studies, a field trip to Revithoussa LNG Terminal, cultural visits and tours, and interactive discussions on current topics such as: Energy Geopolitics: Global Outlook; Energy Geopolitics: The Eastern Mediterranean; Energy Resources and Deposits in the Eastern Mediterranean; Egypt’s Energy Policies in the Eastern Mediterranean; Geopolitical Rivalries and Collaborations in the Region; Israel’s Energy Cooperation and Competition in the Eastern Mediterranean; The Role of Greece and Cyprus as Energy Hubs; Cyprus’s Energy Exploration Program and Regional Electricity Interconnectors; Energy Diplomacy and International Relations; Scenarios for the Future of Energy & Global Geopolitics.

The following academics and experts from European and International Universities, Institutes and research centers participated: **Prof. Constantinos Filis**, Director of the ACG Institute of Global Affairs; **George Kremlis**, Director of EPLC Circular Economy and Climate Institute; **Antonia Dimou**, Non-resident fellow, CMED, UCLA; **Prof. Noha Bakr**, American University in Cairo, Egypt; **Amit Mor**, CEO, Eco Energy Financial & Strategic Consulting, Israel; **Charles Ellinas**, CEO, E-C Cyprus Natural Hydrocarbons Company Ltd, Cyprus; **Prof. Kostas A. Lavdas**, Director of the Graduate Program in International Relations and Strategic Studies, Panteion University, Athens; **Dr. Stella Gerani**, Adjunct Lecturer, International Hellenic University; **Michalis Mathioulakis**, Energy Strategy Analyst, Academic Director of the Greek Energy Forum.

d) Parliamentary Democracy in Europe – 14th Edition **Joint Summer Program with Luiss School of Government, Rome**



In its second year of collaboration with LUISS School of Government, ELGS co-organized the 14th edition of the Summer School on “**Parliamentary Democracy in Europe**”, held from 14 to 18 July 2025 at the LUISS University Campus in Viale Romania, Rome. This year’s program focused on the theme: “**AI and Parliaments: Challenges in Representation, Law-Making, and Administrative Support**”, exploring the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence on parliamentary institutions.

Participants engaged with expert-led lectures, interactive sessions, and a visit to the Italian Chamber, gaining multidisciplinary insights into how AI can enhance legislative efficiency while preserving the core values of democratic constitutionalism. On 17 July 2025, sessions of the summer program took place at the Theatre of the Palazzo Altemps (“EPLC Day”), and the participants had the chance to receive insights on the topic from **Prof. Cristina Vanberghen** along with **Prof. Matteo Gnes**, also from **Assoc. Prof. Valentina Rita Scotti** and **Assoc. Prof. Luca Lantero**.



Fellowship Program & Side Events

The ELGS organizes a series of lectures and events every year for its students for the general public.

Fellowship Program

Jakub Handrlica, Prof. JUDr DSc, Vice-Dean for Postgraduate Studies, Faculty of Law, Charles University, Czech Republic, completed his fellowship program at the ELGS, during which he delivered an open lecture with a special guest, Captain Ilias Tsitsios from the Law Faculty of the Aristotle University in Thessaloniki, Greece. The topic of

“Advanced Introduction to Space Administrative Law?” underlined the argument for the gradual emergence of a space administrative law in Europe, while addressing topical issues related to this tendency.

Petia Guintchev Toneva, PhD Candidate in Administrative Law at the University of Barcelona, Spain, spent three months at the ELGS, conducting research for her doctoral thesis focused on the intersection of Administrative Law and Artificial Intelligence (AI).

Silvia Talavera Lodos, PhD Candidate in Human Rights and Global Politics at Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies in Pisa, Italy, spent a semester at the ELGS studying the constitutional and decentralization frameworks in Italy, Spain, and Greece which shape the capacity of local governments to fulfil the rights to housing, health, and education, particularly for non-citizens and migrants.

ELGS Colloquium

Under the direction of the Dean of ELGS, **Luís María Díez-Picazo**, academic colloquia were organized throughout the year for the School’s academic personnel, during which the resident lecturers presented their academic research/papers. This was followed by an in-depth discussion, aimed at enhancing their research goals, achievements, and publications. More specifically, the following topics were presented:

Rule of Law and the Private Sector, **Dr. Taygeti Michalakea**; The Evolutions of the Turkish Legal System and the Scholarship on Constitutional Regression: A Theoretical Challenge, **Assoc. Prof. Valentina Rita Scotti**; The ICJ and Multi-Forum Litigation Strategy, **Prof. Nikolas Voulgaris**; The Concept of National and Social Solidarity in the Greek Constitution, **Dr. Eugenia Kopsidi**, An Assessment of the Treaty of Lausanne on its 100th Year: An Analysis of Statistical Data Concerning Cases Related to the Treaty of Lausanne Filed Before the Turkish Constitutional Court, **Dr. Esra Unal**; Strategic Social Rights Litigation: Mobilizing for Legal and Social Change in Europe, **Dr. Nikolaos Papadopoulos**; Contemporary History Meets Brexit: Explaining the United Kingdom’s Decision to Leave the European Union, **Dr. Daniel Furby**; Strategic Intelligence: China’s National Blueprint for AI Leadership, **Assoc. Prof. Dora Papadopoulou**.

Open Lectures

The ELGS organized a guest lecture on **25 November 2024**, delivered by **Prof. Nikolaos Zahariadis**, Professor of International Studies at Rhodes College, on the **“U.S. political and electoral system”**, delving into the structure of U.S. elections and the global consequences deriving from it, as well as the politics of different countries of the world including the economy, the trade, and the countries’ relations, unfolding in a vibrant discussion between the professor and the participants.

On **17 December 2024**, an open lecture on **“Risk-based Regulatory Delivery – the Example of Food Safety Regulation**, delivered by **Donald Macrae**, Former Director General for Regulation for the UK Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs, and moderated by **Dr. Florentin Blanc**, Director of the EPLI Institute for Regulatory Innovation, Delivery and Effectiveness (IRIDE), took place.

On **8 May 2025**, the Department of Political Science at **Roma Tre University**, in collaboration with the ELGS and EPLI Rome Office, hosted a seminar by **Assoc. Prof. Luca Lantero**, Director of the **Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance (IHELG)** at EPLI. The seminar, entitled **“The Global Higher Education Sector: Value of Degrees, Recognized Institutions and Study and Research Opportunities”**, focused on the portability and legal value of academic qualifications across different countries, highlighting key issues in higher education terminology, recognition frameworks, and institutional accreditation.



Assoc. Prof. Luca Lantero lecturing at Roma Tre University in Rome

TEPSA

Representation of the EPLO/ELGS at TEPSA's Pre-Presidency Conference

Denmark was set at the time to take over the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union on 1 July 2025. In anticipation of this role, the Danish Pre-Presidency Conference (PPC) took place in **Copenhagen on 22-23 May 2025**. Co-organized by TEPSA and the Danish Institute for International Studies, the event focused on Europe's future and the major challenges confronting the EU. A particularly prominent issue discussed was the EU's delicate balancing act in upholding its position as a global maritime security actor.

Earlier, the Polish Pre-Presidency Conference, also organized by TEPSA, took place on **21-22 November 2024** in Warsaw and hosted policymakers to meet with key stakeholders and the wider public. The conference featured high-level discussions between researchers from the TEPSA Network, members of the public, including students and civil society representatives, and key policymakers from the Polish government. The ELGS Resident Lecturer, **Dr. Eugenia Kopsidi**, was invited to speak on the panel titled "Regain control, ensure security. Irregular migration to the EU" and represented the EPLO at TEPSA's General Assembly.

Contribution to TEPSA's Annual Book Series on the "Future of Europe"

The ELGS team member contribution to TEPSA's "Future of Europe" book series titled "The United States and the Future of Europe: Views from the Capitals" has been accomplished. **Mr. Dimitris Tsaknis** and **Ms. Athina Fatsea** wrote the Hellenic chapter and shared detailed insights on the Greek/US and EU/US bilateral relations respectively. The editors of the TEPSA's "Future of Europe" book series are **Michael Kaeding, Johannes Pollak, and Paul Schmidt**. Learn more [here](#) (April 2025).

EPLO/ELGS becomes an official member of "The Open Council of Europe Academic Networks" (OCEAN).

OCEAN unites universities and research institutions from the Council of Europe's 46 member states around the shared goal of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

Institutional Visit of ELSA Athens to the EPLO Premises

Joint Event by the ELGS, the Institute for Justice and Growth (IJG), and the Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology (IPL)

May 2025, EPLO Athens

The European Law and Governance School together with the Institute of Justice and Growth and the Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology were pleased to welcome **ELSA Athens** for an institutional visit. The closure of the event was highlighted by the granting of six scholarships (3 full and 3 partial) for the ELGS's summer programs among the students who attended the event.

Participation in Educational Fairs

18-20 November 2024

ELGS took part in the Salone dello Studente fair held in Rome. Over the course of the three-day event, Assoc. Prof. **Valentina Rita Scotti**, and the EPLO Marketing team represented the School and engaged with high school students interested in pursuing a higher education program.

13 February 2025

Meeting and Presentation of the ELGS at the **Marist School of Giugliano** in Campania, Italy, the Classes of the Lyceum 4 / 5.

12 March 2025

The ELGS Team along with the EPLO Marketing Department participated online in the **5th edition of ELSA's Career Fair**. Career Launch is one of the largest international events designed for law students and young law scholars.



ELGS at Salone dello Studente fair

29 March 2025

The Cascais Branch team represented the ELGS at the **Futuràlia Study Fair** in Lisbon.

1 April 2025

As part of its outreach and engagement efforts, ELGS was represented at the **American University of Rome's (AUR) Career Fair** on **April 1 2025** by the ELGS Rome office.

Conference Participation 2024-2025

ELGS representation by the Resident Faculty

On 29 May 2025, ELGS **Professor Nikolas Voulgaris** participated in a one-day Workshop held at the University of Glasgow titled *Research Workshop, University of Glasgow School of Law, 29 May 2025, "The Political Universes of International Courts"*. Prof. Voulgaris did a presentation on "Instrumentalizing International Courts via Multi-Forum Litigation strategies".

On 10 December 2024, **Dr. Taygeti Michalakea** participated in a roundtable on Freedom of Expression at the University of Nicosia, with participants from Cyprus and Greece.

On 12-13 September 2025, **Dr. Nikolaos Papadopoulos** participated at the 21st Panhellenic Conference of the Society of Labor Law and Social Security (EDEKA) in Thessaloniki, Greece, on the topic "Labor Contract: Protection of Content and Substance." On 22-23 May 2025, Dr. Papadopoulos participated in the 1st European Studies Young Scholars' Conference organized by the Centre for European Legal Culture (CELC) of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, in cooperation with the Centre for International and European Economic Law (CIEEL). There, he conducted a presentation on "Searching for Social Europe: Reflections on the Adoption of the Directive on Adequate Minimum Wages in the EU." On 29 January 2025, Dr. Papadopoulos presented at a seminar hosted by the Maastricht Centre for Human Rights of Maastricht University under the theme "Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Strategically Moving Forward." His talk was titled "Strategic Socio-Economic Rights Litigation: Mobilizing for Legal and Social Change."

On 5-6 November 2024, **Assoc. Prof. Valentina Rita Scotti** participated in the conference: "Political culture and democratic values: the case of Turkey in a comparative perspective, Conference 'Constitutionalism in a changing world on the centenary of the 1924 Turkish Constitution', University of Ankara Faculty of Law. On 3 October 2025, she participated in the conference "Unhasting but unresting: the decline of Turkish electoral democracy", IACL Roundtable "Current Challenges to Constitutional Democracies", "La Sapienza" University of Rome. Finally, she worked on the topic "How to improve gender equality beyond formal legal protection?" and she did a book presentation on "The Rights of Women in Comparative Constitutional Law", DIPEC, University of Siena, 31 January 2024.

In May 2025, **Dr. Daniel Furby** participated actively in the *Conference on Franco-British relations (Oxford)*, which was organized by the Institut Georges Pompidou under the patronage of Emmanuel Macron, President of France. Moreover, on 12 June 2025, he gave the closing remarks at an event in Brussels entitled "Securing Europe's Future".

On 21-23 March 2025, **Dr. Eugenia Kopsidi**, participated in the 10th ForInCip (Forum International sur la Constitution et les institutions Politiques). This year's theme was "*La préservation de la Constitution*" (*The Preservation of the Constitution*). **Dr. E. Kopsidi** also co-authored the Greek national report on the topic with **Dr. G. Aravantinou-Leonidi**.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The EPLO has welcomed more than 250 interns from various countries all over the world including all five continents for an internship from two up to six months. In the specific period, the EPLO received more than 30 students from various universities: **European Law & Governance School, European University Viadrina Frankfurt, King's College, Leiden University, National School of Political and Administrative Studies (SNSPA), Northeastern University, SciencesPo, Shanghai University, The Fletcher School at Tufts University, University Complutense de Madrid, University of Bologna, University of Rome, University of Zaragoza, Yale University.**

The EPLO Internship Program runs mainly in Greece. It offers to students work experience in various areas, such as law, education, political science, international relations, administration, human resources, conference organization, IT, finance, communication & marketing, as well as library support services. The Program has two main objectives:



To provide students with an opportunity to develop professionally and personally and to provide staff of the EPLO with assistance and access to fresh talent and skills.



Participants of the EPLO Internship Program.

The organization of the EPLO Internship Program is based upon three pillars: Work experience, training, and culture. In the short term, students will learn to adapt to another country and become self-sufficient in a supportive environment. In the medium term, students will become familiar with the structure, function and areas of activity of the EPLO, as well as the way that different departments of an organization work together to achieve their goals. In the long term, students will have developed the professional and personal skills to not only manage complex situations, but more importantly to manage themselves.

Applications are accepted throughout the year, while a few positions are offered, on an *ad hoc* basis, for posts at EPLO offices outside of Greece. [You may visit here](#) for full details and [here](#) for a presentation of the Internship Program in video format.

2025 – EPLO launches the Executive Internship Program collaborating with The Fletcher School at Tufts University

The EPLO has developed the Executive EPLO Internship Program, a specific program which operates for 10 weeks (June to mid-August). In June 2025, EPLO/ELGS welcomed five students from the Fletcher School. During their stay, they were also encouraged to participate in ELGS summer schools and engage in cultural activities, including visits to museums, archaeological sites, and guided tours in the historic center of Athens.



Students from Fletcher School of Tufts University during their Executive Internship Program this summer at the ELGS Campus at Sounion, Greece.

Program pillars

- Department Allocation: Students are assigned to EPLO Departments and Institutes to provide services and perform tasks that contribute to the Organization’s work.
- Cultural and Educational Exposure: Students experience Greek culture while gaining knowledge in EU law, public policy and international governance, fostering a global perspective through hands-on learning and academic studies.
- Pool of the Future Employees: Participation in the Executive Internship Program results to participation in the Pool of the Future Employees of the EPLO.

The Executive EPLO Internship Program is held at the EPLO premises in Legrena-Sounion, by the Temple of Poseidon, overlooking the Aegean Sea



Beyond cultural experiences, several study visits were organized, including the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, the Council of State, the Fulbright Foundation, and the Onassis Foundation. Through these visits, the students met key institutions and prominent figures in the Greek public and academic landscape. As part of the program, they had the opportunity to meet the Minister of Migration and Asylum, as well as the President of the Council of State, gaining valuable insights into Greece’s administrative and legal system.

Lectures were offered by the ELGS Resident Faculty and Visiting Professor: **Esteban Peralta Losilla**, Professor Titular, Public International Law and International Relations, University of Zaragoza.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION & INSTITUTION BUILDING

The Department of Technical Cooperation of the EPLO is responsible for designing, developing, and implementing all the technical cooperation activities of the Organization.

The technical cooperation activities of the EPLO assist governments, public bodies, and institutions around the world in advancing reforms in a wide range of public law and governance areas. The main areas of intervention comprise justice and the rule of law, including criminal and civil justice reform; human rights, including the rights of women, children, migrants, and other vulnerable groups; public administration reform; good governance and anti-corruption; private sector development; trade and intellectual property law; legislative approximation to the *acquis communautaire*; public administration reform; democratization; migration and trafficking in human beings; environment and sustainable development.

Within this framework, the EPLO carries out diverse actions and services, such as providing technical advice to governments for legislative and policy reforms, specialized training and capacity building for civil servants and practitioners, reorganization and modernization of public institutions, empowerment of civil society organizations, policy-oriented research, raising public awareness, and dissemination activities. In 25 years of existence, the EPLO has implemented over **300 technical cooperation projects** in more than **70 countries**.



Training for the Jordanian Ministry of Government Communication (MOGC) Project No. 4, December 2024

During the past year, the Department has managed a portfolio of more than **45 projects**. The European Union funds approximately 65% of the projects. Other funding sources include the Italian, the Greek, and Canadian governments, the OECD, and other international donors. The geographical scope of the projects includes EU Member States such as Greece, Italy, and Lithuania, as well as Albania, Canada, Jordan, Tunisia, and Benin.

The following is a brief overview of selected projects, including concluded, ongoing, and new projects.

Concluded Projects

1. Support to the Institute of Public Administration (IPA) of Jordan

Donor: Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

Duration: 23 months

EPLO role: Leader

Objective: To contribute to the implementation of the Modernization Vision of the Government of Jordan, specifically to the achievement of the objectives of the Public Sector Modernization Roadmap. The project supports the institutional strengthening of the Institute of Public Administration of Jordan, and the improvement of the performance of the Jordanian Civil Service through training and capacity-building initiatives.



Study Tour in Italy for delegation of Jordan Government Leaders

2. S3E: Southern European Entrepreneurship Engine

Donor: EU, Horizon Program

Duration: 39 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To develop an engine of growth that will contribute to improving the connectedness and efficiency of the Southern European countries' innovation ecosystems. S3E's focus is on the acceleration of deep tech projects/startups that, by providing solutions to a more sustainable society, can impact the economic growth in these countries and contribute to the timely achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

3. Water Rethink

Donor: Green Fund, Greece

Duration: 12 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To raise awareness among the population about the problem of water scarcity as a result of the climate crisis, chemical pollution, and population growth; to analyse the effects of water scarcity on food and energy concerning the availability of the population; to record the potential of Greece in liquid waste that can be reused; and formulate proposals to deal with water shortage and its effects.

4. Enhancing the Media and Communication Ecosystem and Institutional Environment in Jordan

Donor: EU

Duration: 16 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To contribute to advancing the media and communication ecosystem and infrastructure in Jordan in accordance with the best international standards and practices.

5. Support for the Italy-Tunisia Strategic Partnership on Food Security (TANIT)

Donor: Italian Government Climate Fund

Duration: 6 months

EPLO role: Leader

Objective: Preparation of a Feasibility Study in the framework of the Project “Support for the Italy-Tunisia Strategic Partnership on Food Security (TANIT)”, which aims to improve Tunisia's food security in a sustainable and climate-resilient way through effective management of non-conventional waters and drought-affected agricultural land.

6. Capacity-Development Activities and Training for EU Staff (both at HQ and EU Delegations)

Donor: EU

Duration: 6 months

EPLO role: Leader

Objective: The fulfilment of the European Commission’s DG NEAR Unit A2 on “Thematic Support - Rule of Law, Governance and Security” mandate through capacity development activities and training for EU staff (both at HQ and EU Delegations) on the latest policy developments, priorities, and instruments. The project assisted the organization of three yearly annual events, including JAI-NET, FRI-NET, and CISO-NET.

7. RINSE – Research and Information Sharing on Freezing and Confiscation Orders in the European Union

Donor: European Commission, DG Justice and Consumers

Duration: 36 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To foster the mutual recognition of the decisions of EU member states regarding the seizure and confiscation of assets by enhancing the knowledge, competencies, and skills of judiciary professionals and other key players involved in the Multi-Phase Asset Recovery process, in line with the priorities of the EU provisions - Regulation 2018/1805 and Directive 2014/42.



Training for Judges and Prosecutors on Freezing, Confiscation and Management of Criminal Assets in Greece and in the European Union, May 2025

Ongoing Projects

8. Support for the EU Integration Process in Albania

Donor: EU, IPA

Duration: 58 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To strengthen the capacity of the Government of Albania to successfully manage the overall EU integration process and effectively conduct the Stabilization and Association Agreement process and accession negotiations.

9. BENEVICT: Analysis of Benefits of Full Implementation of the Victims’ Rights Directive

Donor: European Commission, DG Justice and Consumers

Duration: 24 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To support the EU and Member States (MSs) in their future action on common values and implementation of the EU Victims' Rights Strategy, as well as support MSs in the development of their own national strategies.

10. VR-DigiJust - Digitalising Justice via Combined Virtual Reality Training

Donor: European Commission, DG Justice and Consumers

Duration: 36 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: VR-DigiJust contributes to the effective and coherent application of specific EU judicial cooperation instruments at a regional level through a decentralized cross-border and cross-professional training strategy in the framework of the Council Conclusions 6926/21.

11. Dialogue4Tourism: Institutional Dialogue on Sustainable Tourism and Governance in the Euro-Med area

Donor: EU, Interreg Med

Duration: 7 years

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To increase the coordination level and institutional capacity of public authorities, multi-level bodies, programs, strategies, and initiatives in the Mediterranean to make greener, smarter, and more resilient tourism sector for the flourishing of local communities, visitors, and nature, embracing the fourfold approach of the mission: circularity of tourism services, environmental neutrality, sustainable ecosystem services, and cultural and natural preservation of resources.

12. Coastal pro: e Game-based Learning of Entrepreneurship and Next-Generation Skills in Coastal Tourism

Donor: EU, EMFAF

Duration: 33 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To create cutting-edge learning tools, provide top-quality training courses and support, and develop a framework for next-generation skills in coastal tourism.

13. DesirMed - Demonstration and Mainstreaming of Nature-based Solutions for Climate Resilient Transformation in the Mediterranean

Donor: EU, Horizon 2020

Duration: 60 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To strengthen the knowledge and the capabilities of Mediterranean regions and communities to take leadership and ownership in their transformative Climate Change Adaptation pathways and accelerate the implementation of transformative solutions required to increase their climate resilience over the long term, as well as prioritize nature-based solutions alongside innovative technologies and inclusive social practices.

14. Herit Adapt - Heritage and Territory Resilience Through Sustainable Tourism, Climate Change Adaptation, and Citizen Engagement

Donor: EU, Interreg Med

Duration: 33 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To foster cooperation among key stakeholders by activating interdisciplinary Territorial Working Groups (TWGs) to co-design the data-driven HERIT ADAPT Sustainable Tourism Model (STM) that will be tested in 8 pilot Euro-MED regions of different typologies, including UNESCO sites and lesser-known monuments in coastal, hinterland and mountainous areas; to engage target groups to identify lessons learned and co-develop Sustainable and Resilient Tourism Strategies; and to convert challenges into opportunities by using heritage as a vehicle for communicating Cultural Heritage (CH) and Natural Heritage (NH) assets in the context of climate change.

15. Co2-Pacman – Cooperation and Co-designing Partnership for Climate Neutrality

Donor: EU, Interreg Med

Duration: 33 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To promote multi-purpose actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation by leveraging local knowledge and assets, ensuring sustainable growth, energy security, and improved quality of life. It will create the CO2-Pacman tool to assess challenges, identify multi-sectoral solutions, and quantify their carbon footprint impacts. The project supports Mediterranean islands, specifically Brac (Croatia), Crete (Greece), and Elba (Italy), in transitioning to climate neutrality by advancing previous project results.

16. Industrial Ecosystems -Supporting the Implementation of the Greek National Industrial Strategy

Donor: European Commission, DG Reform

Duration: 24 months

EPLO role: Sub-contractor

Objective: To offer technical support for the successful execution of the Greek National Industrial Strategy (NIS). It focuses on three key areas crucial for designing policies aimed at transforming the Greek industry and enhancing its competitiveness and resilience: 1) Strengthening industrial eco-systems; 2) Intellectual and Industrial property (IP) and 3) Upskilling and reskilling for the green and digital transition. EPLO is responsible for providing support in Pillar 2: Intellectual and Industrial Property.

17. Framework Contract Services for EU External Action (SEA 2023) Lot 9: Democracy, Human Rights, Rule of Law, Gender Equality and HRBA

Donor: EU

Duration: 48 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To support the European Commission's efforts in external action implementation across various Directorates-General (DG INTPA, DG NEAR, DG ECHO), the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI), and EU Delegations. The activities encompassed within this framework cover the entire project cycle, ranging from initial identification and feasibility studies, to operational and technical follow-ups. Services provided include financial and contractual monitoring, technical, financial, or contractual audits, offering technical advice, training and support in the areas of human rights and HRBA, support to democratization, reinforcement of the rule of law and administration of justice, public administration reform and organizational development of public institutions, as well as elections.

18. EU Childocracy

Donor: EU, CERV Programme

Duration : 24 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To promote European democracy through direct youth engagement, fostering cross-cultural collaboration, and advocacy for shared European values. Specifically targeting Greece, Bulgaria and Italy, the project will involve 180 young people aged 14-25 in events focused on campaigning for EU values within local contexts.



Democracy co-creation labs, Mandoulides Schools, April 2025

19. Digital Rights - Applying EU Directives on Procedural Rights in the Context of Trials Regarding Cybercrimes, the Use of e-Evidence and Investigative Digital Forensics

Donor: European Commission, DG Justice and Consumers

Duration: 24 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To bolster the practical application of the EU directives on procedural rights for suspects and accused persons involved in criminal proceedings in cases where the penal law is confronted with the use of new technologies. It focuses on two main aspects of the procedural rights of suspects and accused individuals in criminal proceedings: 1. Accusations for crimes covered by the Budapest Convention; 2. Accusation of other crimes where e-evidence and investigations based on digital forensics are at the center of the prosecuting and trial actions.

20. VISAR - Victim Support Through Alignment of Remedies

Donor: European Commission, DG Justice and Consumers

Duration: 24 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To ensure effective and non-discriminatory access to justice for crime victims, including through electronic means, by promoting efficient, victim-centered criminal procedures. ViSAR addresses three key areas: the fragmented implementation of Directive 2012/29 across Member States, its specific application to victims of domestic violence, and its correlation with the EU Protection Order.

New Projects

21. Support to Public Administration Reform - Jordan

Donor: Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

Duration: 30 months

EPLO role: Leader

Objective: Strengthening the Institute’s of Public Administration of Jordan (IPA) institutional capacities and enhance the effectiveness and innovation of its training services for civil servants and government leaders. Special emphasis will be given on promoting Digital Transformation and Innovation through support to the newly established IPA Innovation Lab.

22. Enhancing the Capacities of the Competent Authority of Industrial Property in Benin

Donor: Hellenic Organization for Industrial Property (OBI)

Duration: 12 months

EPLO role: Leader

Objective: To provide support and to enhance the capacities of the competent authority for Industrial Property within the auspices of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Benin. More specifically, the project aims to provide technical assistance aligned with the EU and international legislative framework and best practices to the wide range of the industrial property rights spectrum, including patents and inventions, trademarks, industrial designs, trade secrets and geographical indications, IP enforcement, Counterfeiting, and piracy.



Study visit to Cotonou, Benin, May 2025

23. Chios-Water-SOS: Awareness and Educational Actions for Addressing Water Supply Challenges and Scarcity on the Island of Chios, and Strategic Solutions

Donor: Chios Municipal Water Supply & Sewerage Enterprise

Duration: 12 months

EPLO role: Leader

Objective: To raise awareness among the population of Chios about the issue of drinking water quality, as well as address water scarcity resulting from the climate crisis by formulating proposals to tackle the problem.



Celebration of the World Water Day, Chios, March 2025

24. FoodGAP

Donor: EU, Interreg

Duration: 36 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To improve the institutional capacities of local public authorities and other stakeholders to adopt participatory governance models for local food policies in the Mediterranean.

25. AQUAMAN – Aquatic Systems’ Evaluation for the Mitigation of Water Scarcity in Mediterranean Islands and Coastal Tourist Destinations Under Severe Pressure

Donor: EU, Interreg

Duration: 26 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: AQUAMAN aims to reinforce the capacity of public authorities involved in water management in islands and coastal tourist destinations so as to mitigate water scarcity. It will transfer valuable knowledge from successful projects for the valorization of non-conventional water sources (rainwater, stormwater, wastewater), the decrease of water demand in targeted sectors, and the optimization of the water distribution systems.

26. AI4GovX

Donor: EU, HADEA

Duration: 48 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: AI4Gov-X is focused on developing digital skills and advancing innovations for public sector transformation. The project aims to connect higher education institutions, public sector, and private organizations to drive digital transformation through Artificial Intelligence (AI), Data Spaces (DS), and Digital Governance Transformation (DGT).



AI4GOV Project Kick-Off Meeting in Milan, February 2025

27. Strengthening Crime Scene Forensics and Prosecution Capabilities in Investigation CBRN Incidents in the Middle East Region

Donor: EU, FPI

Duration: 30 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To enhance governance and cooperation in CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear) risk prevention, detection, and mitigation, contributing to global security and stability. Its main purpose is to improve the detection and mitigation of CBRN-related risks through the EU CBRN Centers of Excellence Initiative, with a focus on forensic capabilities in the Middle East.

28. CAP1: Caribbean-Albanian Poly-Criminal Offshore Network Elicitation

Donor: EU, ISF

Duration: 24 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: CAP1 focuses on the nexus 'Latin-American-Caribbean-Western Balkans' drug trafficking and trafficking in human beings in the poly-criminal environment with corruption as a precursor, and the all-crime approach related to money laundering. The project includes the development of legal and investigative techniques, as well as capacity building and training activities.

29. INBLANC – Industrialization of Building Lifecycle Data Accumulation, Numeracy, and Capitalization

Donor: EU, Horizon

Duration: 30 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To establish an open ecosystem that leverages building lifecycle data for greater value. Through its innovative accumulation framework, digital logbooks, and integration with EU dataspace, INBLANC will streamline data collection and enhance decision-making for building owners and facility managers.

30. Circular Systemic Solution for Sustainable Tourism in European Islands by Movable Plant on a Boat and Co-creation with Island Stakeholders (ReBoat)

Donor: EU, Horizon

Duration: 48 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: ReBoat aims at designing, developing and demonstrating a novel decentralized systemic circular solution, exploiting a mobile, modular, sorting, recycling and reprocessing plant on a Boat that will handle waste generation peaks in islands on demand, locally transforming waste into new products, meeting the needs of island citizens and tourists.

31. GREENHOOD – Nutrient Balance and Resource Optimization in Regional Ecosystems Through Holistic, Sustainable, and Zero-Pollution Solution

Donor: EU, Horizon

Duration: 48 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: The GREENHOOD project pioneers a comprehensive approach to address the global challenge of unbalanced nutrient flows in regional ecosystems. Operating across four European countries and one associated region, GREENHOOD focuses on re-balancing nutrient flows and reducing N/P emissions.

32. EuroLegalBot – Enhancing Judicial Cooperation through a European Arrest Warrant (EAW) Chatbot

Donor: EU, DG Justice

Duration: 24 months

EPLO role: Partner

Objective: To enhance judicial cooperation at the European level, particularly focusing on streamlining the use of the European Arrest Warrant (EAW). The project centers around the development and implementation of a Chatbot designed to support practitioners active in the justice sector in the efficient and effective utilization of the EAW mechanism.

PUBLICATIONS

This past year, Journals, Series, and Stand-alone publications have been, once more, the focus of the EPLO Publications.

Abiding by the EPLO Publications' international character and their ongoing effort to give the opportunity to researchers to access an international audience, submissions are received in a variety of languages, which is the EPLO Publications' distinctive feature: English, French, Spanish, Russian, Portuguese, German, Greek and Italian, and the native languages of authors coming from Central and Eastern European countries (including the Turkish language), depending on the publication.

Regarding the reporting period between September 2024 and September 2025, more than 3,300 pages of scientific research have been made available to the reader. Amongst the publications of this period, special mention should be made of:

A) Journals

➤ **The *European Review of Public Law*** was established in 1989 with the aim of presenting substantial and quality works in the field of public law in Europe and worldwide, thus promoting research and international debates in this field. It is a quarterly publication and constitutes EPLO's longest-standing publication.

The ***European Review of Public Law*** has been continuously published since 1989, and it is now in its **135th** issue.

This last year, and intending to represent as many legal orders as possible and to provide readers with access to developments in a variety of countries, we had the pleasure of welcoming new collaborators in the section of Chronicles, in which 26 countries are represented: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cyprus, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Türkiye, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom.

In the issues of the ***European Review of Public Law*** that appeared during the reporting period, topical public law issues have been addressed, and developments in the fields of Constitutional and Administrative Law (and Jurisprudence) in a variety of countries have been chronicled. The Book Reviews chronicles are also an inseparable and important section of the Review. More detailed information is provided herein concerning the latest issue of the Review:

- **European Review of Public Law 37_1/2025 (135)**

Recently appeared, issue 37_1/2025 (135) of the *European Review of Public Law* comprises the proceedings of the EGPL Conference that took place in September 2024 on the occasion of the EGPL Annual Reunion on the theme "A Changing Europe in a Changing World". In this issue of the Review, eminent academics and legal scholars specializing in this field present their papers on topical issues of utmost significance, such as "World Security", "The EU as a Financial Intermediary", and "The Rule of Law in the European Union". Moreover, the themes treated in the context of the Workshops held within the framework of the Conference (*i.e.*, "Asylum and Migration (New Pact of the European Union)" and "Safeguarding Individual Rights in Emergencies: A Challenge for Modern Democracies") are examined through contributions by legal scholars and academics with a great interest and expertise in the respective fields.

Furthermore, in this issue of the Review are published the *Laudationes* in honor of the following founding or long-standing Members of the European Group of Public Law, in celebration of its 35th Anniversary:

- **Prof. Jean-Bernard Auby**, University Sciences Po, France, with *Laudationes* pronounced by **Prof. Patricia Jonason** and **Prof. Giacinto della Cananea**

- **Prof. Mario P. Chiti**, University of Florence, Italy, with *Laudationes* pronounced by **Prof. Barbara Marchetti** and **Prof. Elisenda Malaret**;

- **Prof. Paul Craig**, University of Oxford, UK, with *Laudationes* pronounced by **Prof. Gordon Anthony** and **Prof. Luis María Díez-Picazo**;

- **Mr. Guy De Vel**, former Director General of the Legal Services of the Council of Europe, with *Laudationes* pronounced by **Prof. Robert Andersen** and **Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis**;

- **Prof. Jaap W. de Zwaan**, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands, with *Laudationes* pronounced by **Prof. Ton van den Brink**, **Prof. Flora Goudappel** and **Prof. Matteo Gnes**.

Acknowledgements by the honored EGPL members are also included.

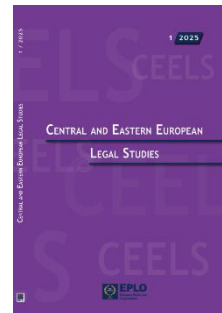


- **The Central and Eastern European Legal Studies**, launched as a periodical biannual publication in 2013, aims to give the opportunity to academics coming from CEE countries and to academics from other countries specializing in this field to come together and exchange views on public law issues of these countries.

Information follows on the latest issue of those that appeared in the reporting period:

- **Central and Eastern European Legal Studies, 1/2025**

In the first issue of the year 2025 of the Central and Eastern European Legal Studies, the reader can find contributions by academics and jurists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine, dealing with: international standards and national mechanism for the protection of human rights in Ukraine under conditions of armed conflict; the challenges associated with safeguarding human rights in a state of emergency and the role of international organizations in addressing these issues; the juvenile justice system within the framework of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; the legal status of the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, its jurisdiction and its relationship to the Provincial Government, according to the 1910 Constitution; the current trends in the global economy, focusing on the impact of digitalization on the formation of greening policies; how collaborative governance enhances transparency and public trust in smart cities, focusing on Central and Eastern Europe; and an overview and description of the legal status of special territories of EU Member States and their relations to the EU.



- **European Journal of History and Culture, Vol. 2 / No 1 • 2025**

The first issue of the Journal of the year 2025 comprises seven papers written by Greek academics and scholars on: the complex and often antagonistic relationship between two cities that played a pivotal role in the shaping of modern civilization and the history of humankind, Venice and Constantinople; the foreign policy and the sovereigntist mobilizations as a key factor shaping Greece’s strategic choices across history; the defense policy of Eleftherios Venizelos, one of the most important prime ministers of Greece, during the period 1928-1932; the exerted control over the Greek education through the National Youth Organization (EON) under the 1936, August 4th dictatorship of Ioannis Metaxas; the analysis of the relations between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union from the Munich Agreement (1938) to Bulgaria’s Entry into the Axis (1941) through the newspaper of the Bulgarian Communist Party *Rabotnichesko delo*; the two forms of resistance of the inhabitants in the Ionian Islands, after the defeat of Greece by the German forces (1941), against the attempt to Italianize the islands and at winning their freedom; the uses of Ontological Security Theory (OST) to showcase the clout that former empires hold on a successor state’s national memory using as examples the Ottoman and Russian empires that recalibrate their autobiographical state narratives, establish societal cohesion, and strengthen dominion over domestic dissident voices.



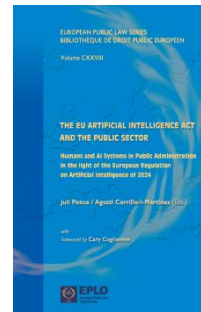
Finally, the EPLD Office in Rome is to launch, in October, a new biannual journal, operating through the EPLD Mexican Chapter (Capítulo Mexicano). The journal aims to be a scientific medium for Latin American research on public law and to spread European and world knowledge on the area in the region and the world. It is oriented to articles on public law issues related to Latin American experiences and realities; the European and other origins’ thought on public law. Submissions are accepted in English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish to give the opportunity to researchers to present developments in the public law of Latin America to a wider audience.

B) Series

The European Public Law Series is a special edition of the *European Review of Public Law*. It comprises 128 volumes, among which are Conference proceedings, Collective books, and monographs.

European Public Law Series, vol. CXXVIII, J. Ponce / A. Cerrillo-i-Martínez (Eds.), *The EU Artificial Intelligence Act and the Public Sector – Humans and AI Systems in Public Administration in the Light of the European Regulation on Artificial Intelligence of 2024, with Foreword by Cary Coglianese, 426 pp ISSN: 2308-8648, ISBN: 978-618-5417-17-8.*

This book includes a Foreword written by USA professor Cary Coglianese, an Introduction by the Editors, and ten contributions from different European specialists in relation to the EU Regulation on AI passed in 2024, also known as the Artificial Intelligence Act (or AI Act). The European Union has defined a new legal framework with the new AI Act for the development and use of artificial intelligence in Europe, which is expected to become a global model for regulating this disruptive technology. This new legal framework focuses on being human-centric and respectful of European Union values and human rights while boosting innovation. The AI Act's purpose is, therefore, to improve the functioning of the internal market by laying down a uniform legal framework. Furthermore, the AI Act aims to ensure the protection of health, safety, fundamental rights, democracy, the rule of law and environmental protection. To that end, the AI Act lays down harmonized rules for the placing on the market, the putting into service, and the use of AI systems in the European Union; prohibitions of certain AI practices; specific requirements for high-risk AI systems and obligations for providers and deployers of such systems; transparency rules for certain AI systems; harmonized rules for the placing on the market of general purpose AI models; and rules on market monitoring, market surveillance governance and enforcement. The book considers all those and other related aspects and includes different chapters written by experts in Law, AI and behavioral insights, which analyze the EU Regulation with a transdisciplinary perspective.



European Public Law Series, vol. CXXVIII, J. Ponce / A. Cerrillo-i-Martínez, *The EU Artificial Intelligence Act and the Public Sector – Humans and AI Systems in Public Administration in the Light of the European Regulation on Artificial Intelligence of 2024*

C) Stand-alone

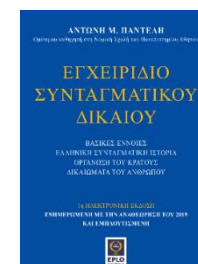
M. Karavias, *The International Labor Conventions in the National Legal Order* [M. Καραβίας, *Οι διεθνείς συμβάσεις εργασίας στην εθνική έννομη τάξη*], (in Greek), 2025, 140 pp., ISBN: 978-618-5417-16-1

International labor conventions constitute the spearhead of the legislative function of the International Labour Organization. They guarantee fundamental rights, promote social justice, and set common standards for the regulation of labor relations across borders. International labor conventions fulfill an ever more critical role in an environment of economic globalization, which generates competition among States with a view to luring foreign investment often at the cost of labor rights. The effectiveness of international labor conventions and, ultimately, the fulfilment of the scope of international labor law hinges in principle on the incorporation and implementation of these conventions within the respective national legal orders of the Member States of the ILO. This book endeavors to provide a holistic, critical look at the incorporation and implementation of international labor conventions in the Greek legal order. On the one hand, it surveys the challenges associated with the institutional process of the adoption of international labor conventions, as well as the solutions provided by the Greek Constitution. On the other hand, it analyzes the practice of Greek national authorities, with a specific focus on national case-law, as the key driving force behind the effective implementation of international labor conventions within Greek law. Ultimately, the book aspires to further the study of international labor law from a national perspective.



M. Karavias, *The International Labour Conventions in the National Legal Order 2025*

A.M. Pantelis, *Handbook of Constitutional Law, Fundamental Concepts – Greek Constitutional History – Organization of the State – Human Rights* [A. Μ. Παντελής, *Εγχειρίδιο Συνταγματικού Δικαίου: Βασικές Έννοιες – Ελληνική Συνταγματική Ιστορία – Οργάνωση του Κράτους – Δικαιώματα του Ανθρώπου*], (in Greek), e-book (PDF), 2024, 606 pp., ISBN: 978-618-5417-15-4



A. M. Pantelis, *Handbook of Constitutional Law, Fundamental Concepts – Greek Constitutional History – Organization of the State – Human Rights*

This book aims at providing mainly to Law students a concise but complete overview of the elements that compose the science of Constitutional Law. The material is presented at two levels: the general elements and the detail or the examples. Law students can make use of this approach that will allow them to follow the structure and avoid the fatigue that detailed elaborations might cause at the time of preparing for the exams. This is the only book, among those on the Greek Constitution of 1975, that includes all four parts of the field, that is, the theoretical, the historical, the organizational and human rights, the knowledge of which is a must for Law students.

Detailed information on the EPLO Publications is available at www.eplopublications.eu.

Institute for Justice and Growth (IJG)



Institute for Justice & Growth

The Institute for Justice and Growth (IJG) has been established with the aim to provide consulting, educational, and training services of expert and innovative character, as well as technical assistance and support to countries and Organizations for reforming and improving the national judicial systems. It also aims at contributing to the enhancement of citizens' trust in justice and the rule of law, improving business and investment environment to boost competitiveness and openness of the economy, exploiting IT technologies in the field of public governance (e-government), as well as in the field of justice (e-justice) aiming at a transparent, accountable, and good governance.

Conference on “The Constitution - Europe – Greece” 29 November 2024

The Conference was co-organized by the **Institute for Justice and Growth of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO)** in collaboration with the **Constantinos and Artemis Kyriazis Foundation**, and with the valuable support of the President of the Council of State, **Michael Pikramenos**, under the patronage of H.E. the President of the Hellenic Republic, **Katerina Sakellaropoulou**, at the “Alkis Argyriadis” Amphitheater, with the kind hospitality of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

With the participation of internationally renowned professors of Constitutional Law, academics, distinguished scientists, officials, and other personalities of renowned prestige from the public sector and the market, a high-level dialogue was held on the possibility of adopting a “European” Constitution, on the forthcoming constitutional revision. The Conference also discussed the concept, the correlations, and the prospects of the Constitution in Greece, given the rapid changes taking place in Greek and European society and economy.

The welcoming speeches were delivered at the opening of the Conference by **Gerasimos Siassos**, Rector of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, **Aikaterini Iliadou**, Associate Professor of Public Law, Head of the Department of Public Law at the Faculty of Law of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens; **Nicolas Kanellopoulos**, Lawyer and President of the Institute for Justice and Growth, and **Nicolaos Kyriazis**, Emeritus Professor of the Economics Faculty of the University of Thessaly, President of the Konstantinos and Artemis Kyriazis Foundation.



It was a great honor for the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) that the keynote speaker of the Conference was **Panagiotis Pikrammenos**, former Prime Minister and former Vice President of the Government.

The conference was divided into 4 sessions:

- The topic of the first session, which was moderated by **Vassilios Skouris**, former President of the Court of Justice of the European Union, Professor Emeritus of Public Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, was “**The European Constitution**”.

- The second session dealt with the connection between the Constitution and the Economy and Development, and was moderated by **Professor Spyridon Flogaitis**, Director of the EPLO.

- The subject of the third session, which was moderated by **Konstantinos Menoudakos**, President of the Hellenic Data Protection Authority, President of the Organization for the Promotion of Alternative Dispute Resolution Methods (ΟΠΕΜΕΔ), President Emeritus of the Hellenic Council of State, was “**The Constitution and Human Rights**”.

- The last session touched upon the relationship between the Constitution and Politics. The discussion was moderated by **Miltiadis Papaioannou**, Lawyer, former Minister of Justice, with the participation of the **Georgios Gerapetritis**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, **Anna Diamantopoulou**, President of DIKTIO - Network for the Reform in Greece and Europe, and **George**



Katrougalos, Professor of Public Law at the Department of Social Policy of the Democritus University of Thrace, Former Minister.

-The event was concluded with a summary of the proceedings of the Conference by **Michael Pikramenos**, President of the Council of State

Conference on “Justice - Society – Constitution”

7 May 2025

The conference was co-organized with the “Association of Greek Judges and Public Prosecutors for the Democracy and Liberties”, with the valuable support of **Mr. Michael Pikramenos**, President of the Council of State, at the EPLO premises at the Roman Agora.

The event discussed the underlying crisis of the institution of Justice, attributed largely to external factors, but also to internal weaknesses and longstanding systemic pathologies in the administration of justice, as well as the growing questioning of its independence.

With the participation of senior judges, well-known Constitutional Law professors, academics, distinguished scientists, officials, and respected public figures, a high-level dialogue took place. It centered around two thematic sessions, aiming to examine the relationship between Justice and public opinion, through the lens of judicial independence and in view of the anticipated constitutional revision.

The event included two sessions:

- **Session I “Justice and Public Opinion – Limits, Challenges and Institutional Guarantees”** was moderated by **Maria Papadimitriou**, President of the Court of Appeal and President of the “Association of Greek Judges and Public Prosecutors for the Democracy and the Liberties”,

Speakers in this session included: **Irini Nikolaou**, Supreme Court Judge, **Panagiotis Lymperopoulos**, Supreme Court Judge, Press Representative of the Supreme Court, **Nikos Sekeroglou**, Council of State Assessor, Press Representative of the Council of State, **Panagiotis Perakis**, Lawyer, former President of CCBE, President of the Justice Observatory, **Panagis Panagiotopoulos**, Associate Professor of Sociology, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

- **Session II “Constitutional Review and Justice”** was moderated by **Mr. Michael Pikramenos**, President of the Council of State.

Speakers in this session included: **Athanasios Plevris**, Member of Parliament, former Minister of Health, **Dimitris Mantzos**, Member of Parliament, **Spyridon Vlachopoulos**, Professor of Constitutional Law, Law Faculty, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, **Dr. Konstantinos Botopoulos**, PhD, Constitutional Law and former Member of European Parliament

- The event concluded with an insightful and comprehensive summary of the conference proceedings and conclusions, presented by **Mr. Ioannis Sarmas**, former Prime Minister, Honorary President of the Court of Auditors.

Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology (IPL)



Institute for
Privacy Law,
Data Protection
and Technology

The Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology (IPL) has been established by the EPLO with the aim of advancing and promoting knowledge and policy in the field of privacy and data protection law, technology, society, and fundamental rights. The vision of the Institute is to cover a wide range of topics related to privacy and data protection, law, and technology, and their normative and technical implications

within a multidisciplinary research institute, combining law, philosophy, social sciences, public administration, and management sciences, sharing the expertise and experiences of legal scholars and privacy law lawyers, electronics engineers, information technology scientists, and sociologists.

Event “Who Rules This Digital World...?”

18 March 2025

The event featured welcoming addresses by **Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis**, Director of the EPLO, and **Mr. Nikolas Kanellopoulos**, Executive Director of the Institute for Privacy, Data Protection and Technology Law, and President of the Institute for Justice and Development, EPLO.

The keynote speakers were: **Dimitris Gerogiannis**, President of the Artificial Intelligence Group-AI Catalyst, **Anna Diamantopoulou**, President of DIKTIO - Network for the Reform in Greece and Europe, **Vassilis Karkatzounis**, Lawyer specializing in New Technologies, LL.M., PhD (c.), **Grigoris Kotsikaris**, President of iKnowHow Group, **Michalis Kritikos**, Policy Analyst on AI Ethics and Trustworthy Governance of AI, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation, European Commission, and **Yannis Mastrogeorgiou**, Special Secretary for Long Term Planning at the Presidency of the Government, Coordinator of the Committee on AI.

The event, as well as the very interesting discussion that followed, was moderated by **Lilian Mitrou**, Professor, University of the Aegean, Department of Information and Communication Systems Engineering, and President of the Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology (IPL).

A multifaceted, high-level dialogue was conducted regarding, the question of who can, and to what extent, define, reform, and, ultimately, control the digital world, emerging from the rapid technological developments on a global scale, culminating in the widespread use of artificial intelligence applications in every aspect of our personal, economic, and political lives.



The event was attended by esteemed representatives of the legal and academic community, information technology scientists, as well as by Data Protection Officers (DPO) of various public and private organizations, public officers, university students, and others.

Joint Institute Activities & Events

The European Law and Governance School (ELGS) in collaboration with the Institutes for Justice and Growth (IJG), and for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology (IPL).

ELSA Athens – Institutional Visit at the EPLO Premises

13 May 2025

The **European Law and Governance School**, the **Institute of Justice and Growth**, and the **Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology**, were pleased to welcome, for the second consecutive year, **ELSA Athens** and 50 Law Students of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, also members of ELSA Athens, for an institutional visit at the EPLO premises at the Roman Agora.

The aim and scope of the two Institutes, as well as the range of their work, their activities, and their vision for the future, were presented to the members of ELSA Athens by **Eleni Kefali**, Justice Reform and Growth Director of the Institute of Justice and Growth. A comprehensive presentation of the academic activities and educational programs of the European Law and Governance School was given by **Panoraia Spiliopoulou**, Director General for Education of the EPLO, and **Iro Skrapa**, Student and Academic Affairs Officer. The closure of the event was highlighted by the granting of six scholarships (3 full and 3 partial) to the students who attended the event for the ELGS's summer programs.

Welcome and Presentation of the Institute for Justice and Growth and the Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology Within the Framework of the EPLO International Internship Program

22 October 2024, 10 December 2024

As part of the orientation period of the new interns within the framework of the EPLO International Internship Program, **Eleni Kefali**, Justice Reform and Growth Director of the Institute of Justice and Growth, presented the aim and scope of the two Institutes, their work, their activities, and their vision for the future, at the EPLO premises at the Roman Agora.

Welcome and Presentation of the Institute for Justice and Growth and the Institute for Privacy Law, Data Protection and Technology Within the Framework of the EPLO Executive Internship Program

3 July 2025

As part of the **EPLO Executive Internship Program**, five students from the **Fletcher School of Tufts University** were hosted at the Organization's facilities in Legrena. As part of their orientation period, **Eleni Kefali**, Justice Reform and Growth Director of the Institute of Justice and Growth, presented the aim and scope of the two Institutes as well as the range of their work and their activities over the past few years, and their vision for the future.

Institute for Sustainable Development



Institute for Sustainable Development

The Institute for Sustainable Development of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) supports the public and private sectors in building implementation and governance capacity to deliver the UN 2020 Agenda (the SDGs) and to promote Sustainable Development and the European Green Deal. Operating as a knowledge hub bringing together expertise across different resources worldwide, the Institute offers training programs, and strategic and policy guidance in sustainable development, ESG, sustainable finance, circularity, and

blue economy. It was originally launched in 2018 as the SDG Center on Governance and Public Law as a collaboration between the **University of Cambridge and EPLO**. In the meantime, the Institute has run several projects on sustainable development, organized high-level conferences and side events in UN Conferences (including the recent UN Ocean Conference), and **is currently a partner in two European-funded programs**. Over the years, the Institute has established itself as an authority in the fields it operates in.

The 2024 and 2025 BioMed-AI Summer Schools

11-13 September 2024, Lisbon, Portugal, and 26-28 May 2025, Lyon, Nice.

The Institute for Sustainable Development was proud to co-organize the BioMed-AI Summer School for a second consecutive year, fostering dialogue at the intersection of biomedical innovation, ethics, sustainability, and responsible AI. The 2024 edition, held in Lisbon under the auspices of the Academy of Athens, and with the support of the Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens, followed a successful 2023 edition, and preceded the 2025 edition planned for Lyon–Nice. The Institute Director, **Mr. Spyros Kouvelis**, and Policy & Programs Director, **Ms. Christina Deligianni** joined a distinguished line-up of speakers, including representatives from NOVA



Group Photo at the 3rd BioMed AI Summer School held in May 2025 at the IARC/WHO Headquarters in Lyon, France

Medical School, NOVA School of Law, the European Parliament, and the European Health Data Space, to highlight the role of ESG and policy in shaping the future of health innovation. The 3rd edition of the Summer School, co-organized with the invaluable support of IARC – International Agency for Research on Cancer / World Health Organization and esteemed partners, brought together visionary speakers, passionate participants, and dedicated sponsors who shared a common commitment to advancing biomedical research through AI and ethical policy.

The Earthshot Prize Official Nominator

For the fourth year in a row, the Institute has been privileged to be a Nominator for the prestigious Earthshot Prize, founded by HRH the Prince and Princess of Wales and the British Royal Foundation. This year, the Institute proposed five outstanding nominations that offer solutions to the most pressing challenges of our times and participated in consultations with the British Embassy and the Earthshot Prize team.

Coastal Pro EU-funded Project on Up-Skilling in Blue Careers

The Institute is a partner in the Coastal Pro EU-funded project on upskilling in blue careers. Via this program, the Institute has provided training materials for the online gamified course for tourism professionals in sustainability, circularity, ESG, and the blue economy, fields of expertise from the Institute.

Horizon Europe South3E Program

The Institute has been a proud partner in the Horizon Europe South3E acceleration program on deep tech and sustainability, responsible for the Growth Start-Ups Acceleration Program and the ecosystem. To this end, it has organized and delivered more than thirty webinars on subjects such as IP protection, funding opportunities, sustainable finance, circular economy, ESG, and the path to net zero. During the 2.5 years of the program, the Institute accelerated 52 deep tech start-ups that have secured more than 3 million euros in funding. It is noteworthy that this is the very first Horizon Europe project that EPLO, as an organization, has ever been involved

in. In addition, a paper was submitted detailing the project's methodology, impact, and lessons learned, aligning with the EU's sustainability objectives and innovation goals. Read the submitted paper [here](#).

FoodGap Project

The FoodGaP Project (Fostering sustainable food systems through innovative policies and governance approaches) is an Interreg project slated to commence soon, aiming to bridge the gap between sustainable food production, equitable access, and responsible consumption. The Institute for Sustainable Development of EPLO plays a key role in leading the stakeholder engagement, communication, and policy interface activities, ensuring inclusive dialogue and effective dissemination. By aligning with the European Green Deal and Farm to Fork Strategy, FoodGaP contributes to shaping resilient food systems that benefit people and the planet.

Participation in Leading Events, Conferences, and Publications

Demonstrating its strong commitment to advancing sustainable development and climate action, the Institute for Sustainable Development of EPLO has actively participated in numerous high-level conferences, forums, and expert panels across Europe, Greece, and the GCC region. Members of the Institute's team have contributed to thought leadership through speaking engagements, interviews, and published articles, helping to shape the global dialogue on ESG, climate resilience, and inclusive policy-making.



Policy and Programs Director Ms. Deligianni moderating a panel at Prodexpo held in October 2024 in Athens, Greece

AIM Congress

6-9 April 2025

The Institute has been a supporting organization at the AIM Congress, one of the world's leading investment platforms, bringing together government officials, policy-makers, global investors, entrepreneurs, and innovation experts to shape the future of international investment. Held under the patronage of the UAE Ministry of Economy, AIM Congress serves as a global forum to promote sustainable economic development through investment partnerships, knowledge exchange, and innovation-driven growth. The Institute for Sustainable Development advanced discussions on ESG investing, climate finance, and sustainable development, highlighting the vital role of impact-driven policies and responsible capital flows in achieving global sustainability goals, and held a pre-conference certified workshop on ESG and Sustainable Finance.



The Institute team at the AIM Congress held in April 2025 at ADNEC, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Participation in the European Ocean Days

3-7 March 2025

The European Ocean Days, organized by the European Commission, is a high-level event series dedicated to fostering dialogue and action around the EU's marine policies, sustainable blue economy, and ocean governance. The Institute for Sustainable Development actively participated in this flagship gathering, contributing to discussions on ocean literacy, marine ecosystem resilience, and financing sustainable blue growth. Through its involvement, the Institute highlighted the importance of aligning ocean-related initiatives with the EU Green Deal, Mission Ocean, and international commitments under SDG 14, while also promoting multi-stakeholder collaboration across science, policy, and investment communities.



The Institute team at the BlueInvest Event during the European Ocean Days held in March 2025 in Brussels,

Institute for Humanities and Culture

“Nicos Svoronos”



Institute for Humanities and Culture Nicos Svoronos

The Institute for Humanities and Culture “Nicos Svoronos” was established in memory of the late professor who excelled in the combination of humanities and culture with law and governance. The Institute is established to promote study, research, and training and to organize various initiatives and events in the area of administrative, financial, judicial, defense, religious, cultural affairs and international relations, as well as the arts, music, archeology, popular culture, everyday life, etc. **Prof. Kalliopi (Kelly) Bourdara** is the Director of the Institute.

Institute on Crime & Criminal Justice (ICCJ)



Institute on Crime & Criminal Justice

The Institute on Crime & Criminal Justice (ICCJ) of the EPLA was established in November 2020. The mission of the Institute on Crime and Criminal Justice focuses on promoting study, research, consulting, training and policy-oriented work to crime related studies and criminal justice policies at the national, European and international level. The specific fields of interest of the Institute on Crime and Criminal Justice are human rights, criminal justice policies, criminology, victimology, security, civil society and social issues. The ICCJ implemented research and awareness activities and participated in many project proposals submitted under EU calls for funding. In the period (from September 2024 to September 2025) the Institute participated in six funded projects as full partner:

The **VRDiGiJust (Digitalizing Justice through Virtual Reality Training)** started in December 2022 and will last for three years. The development of the Virtual Reality European Judicial Academy, the e-trainings and the Train the Trainers (ToTs) seminars (drafting the course structure, selecting topics and case studies, tutoring) were the main activities of the project implementation during the year. The ToT in Greece aims to provide knowledge and skills on the use of combined VR and AI technologies for the design and delivery of training courses in the field of justice. The collaboration with the National School of Judges (Greece) has also been developed and *in situ* project dialogue has been held, leading to the establishment of a network of judges and prosecutors trained in the new technologies in Greece. Two cascade trainings for the judges took place in Thessaloniki (11 July 2025) and in Athens (18 July 2025). The ICCJ also participates in the research and dissemination activities of the **BENEVICT project** focused on the promotion of victims’ rights across Europe and the implementation of the EU Directive 2012/29/EU.

The ICCJ participates in four new EU funded projects. a. The **VISAR** project aiming to enhance the effective implementation of EU victims' rights laws, particularly in the context of domestic violence, by fostering cooperation among key stakeholders, improving access to justice and support services for victims, and developing standardized resources and tools that promote a comprehensive, coherent, and inclusive victim support strategy across EU Member States. The kick-off meeting took place at EPLA premises in October 2024 at the Roman Agora, Athens. In February 2025 the EPLA organized the first Greek focus group entitled “Support for Victims of Crime in Greece: Recent Developments & Prospects”. b. The **CAP1: Caribbean-Albanian Poly-criminal Offshore Network Elicitation Project** officially launched in February 2025. The overall objective of the CAP1 project is to combat organized crime by addressing the interconnections between drug trafficking, human trafficking, and corruption. c. The **Digital Rights project** aiming to bolstering the practical application of the EU directives on procedural rights for suspects and accused persons involved in criminal proceedings in cases where the penal law is confronted with the use of new technologies, and d. The **Eurolegal Bot project** aimed at enhancing judicial cooperation at the European level through the development of a chatbot to support practitioners in utilizing the European Arrest Warrant (EAW) mechanism.

The Director of the ICCJ Professor **Vasiliki Artinopoulou** is member of the UN Treaty Body, the Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT), and since February 2023 serves as the Head of the European Regional Team. Also, Professor Vasiliki Artinopoulou has been appointed by the Prime Minister of Greece, **Mr Kyriakos Mitsotakis** as the Head of an Experts Committee on Youth Violence and Delinquency, an advisory body in the Presidency of the Greek Government. In May 2025, the Director of the ICCJ, Head of the Committee delivered to the Prime Minister of Greece and the Ministerial Council the “National Strategy on the Prevention of Violence against Children and the Confrontation of Juvenile Delinquency”, the first strategy on this topic at European level.

Institute for Intellectual Property Rights & Innovation (IPRI)



Institute for
Intellectual Property
Rights & Innovation

The Institute for Intellectual Property Rights & Innovation (IPRI) was founded in November 2019. Its core objective is to support the international development of IP policy by reinforcing the study of Intellectual Property and innovation management. The members of the IPRI are personalities of high academic and professional qualifications and international recognition, including members from WIPO, EPO, and EUIPO.

Center for Gender and Equality Policy Studies (CEGEPS)



Center for Gender
and Equality
Policy Studies

The Center for Gender and Equality Policy Studies (CEGEPS) is an independent unit of the EPLO, which, driven by documented research, intends to seek actions, institutional adjustments, and policies that promote human rights, equality, and social justice. It was founded in December 2020.

Institute for Transparency & Fundamental Rights



Institute for
Transparency &
Fundamental
Rights

The Institute for Transparency & Fundamental Rights aims to promote the protection of fundamental rights in the European, international and comparative national space at scientific, social and political levels, as well as the dialogue of cultures in this field.

Circular Economy & Climate Institute (EPLO/CC)



Circular
Economy &
Climate Institute

The Circular Economy & Climate Institute is promoting circular economy and sustainable practices, climate, environmental, and energy diplomacy, as well as the new holistic concept of “circular diplomacy”, and it will strive to mainstream circular economy in all policy areas. The Institute is supported by a diverse team of interdisciplinary experts and its scientific committee, which includes distinguished academics and professionals from around the globe. The Institute aims to advance the adoption of circular economy principles across governance levels, promoting both top-down and bottom-up approaches, along with fostering social circular economy initiatives. It also focuses on promoting circular entrepreneurship, circular environmental, and social governance (C-ESG). Additionally, the Institute shares best practices for climate change mitigation and resilience actions, while advocating for climate-proofing and green public procurement.

Director & Member of the Board of the EPLO: George Kremlis, Deputy Director: Garyfallia (Fay) Selimi.

Projects

Demonstrating its strategic commitment to advancing sustainability across Europe, the Circular Economy and Climate Institute has actively submitted high-impact proposals to flagship EU programs such as Horizon and Erasmus+. Simultaneously, it is entering the final phase of formalizing two significant programmatic agreements, one with the Solid Waste Management Authority of the Peloponnese Region, and the other with the Municipality of Thessaloniki, aimed at designing and implementing innovative circular economy projects at the regional and urban level.

In parallel, the Institute is strengthening its international outreach through strategic collaborations on capacity building with the Ministries of Environment and Energy of North Macedonia and Bulgaria, contributing to the regional dissemination of circular economy principles and climate resilience strategies.

Partnerships

In **2024**, the Institute laid the groundwork for a Memorandum of Understanding with the Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority (HCAA), which was officially signed by the EPLO and marks the beginning of a highly promising collaboration in the fields of green and circular airports, as well as sustainable aviation fuels.

As part of this strategic alliance, the Institute provides expert support and technical know-how, actively participating in high-level meetings between the Authority, European Institutions, and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), contributing to the alignment of national aviation policy with cutting-edge environmental and circular economy standards.

The Institute has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the **Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (EMEA)**, laying the foundation for a dynamic partnership focused on joint research initiatives, participation in European programs, and the co-organization of high-impact seminars and training activities. This collaboration reinforces the Institute’s strategic role in shaping sustainable economic models across the Euro-Mediterranean region.

In parallel, the Institute maintains active collaborations with key international stakeholders such as the Ministry of Culture of Spain, Europa Nostra, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM), and Greening the Islands, jointly promoting circular economy practices and safeguarding the Mediterranean region from the escalating impacts of climate change.

Furthermore, the Institute’s growing reputation for expertise and leadership in the field has led to ongoing academic partnerships with leading universities, including Columbia, Georgetown University, Sorbonne, Ben-Gurion University, and Ca’ Foscari University of Venice. These institutions have repeatedly entrusted the Institute with delivering keynote lectures and contributing to high-level workshops, underscoring its role as a trusted voice in the global dialogue on circularity and climate resilience

Important Events/Activities

The Institute has also established its flagship annual international scientific conference, the **Circular Gaia Symposium**, as a platform to promote the circular economy and climate neutrality model across all sectors of society. The Symposium serves as a global forum for scientists, technocrats, and institutional stakeholders from around the world, fostering interdisciplinary dialogue, knowledge exchange, promotion of best practice, and the co-creation of innovative solutions for a more sustainable and resilient future.

The Institute also had an active presence at **COP29 in Baku**, participating in a range of high-level panels hosted by multiple countries. This strategic engagement provided a valuable opportunity for visibility, networking, and the promotion of the Institute’s work and the broader mission of the EPLO. Through meaningful dialogue with international partners and institutions, the Institute further advanced its efforts to position circular economy and climate neutrality at the heart of global climate action.



HCAA meeting: HCAA Governor Mr. Christos Tsitouras, George Kremlis, ICAO’s President, Salvatore Sciacchitano, Prof. Spyridon Flogaitis



MoU Agreement with EMEA: The president of EMEA, Prof. Rym Ayadi, the EMEA communication manager, Mr. George Christopoulos, Mr. George Kremlis, Ms. Garyfallia Selimi



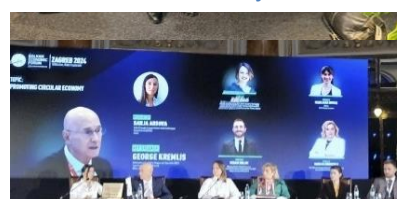
Ministry of Culture of Spain, European Technical Workshops on Cultural Landscape



George Kremlis – Spanish Pavilion COP29, Baku, Azerbaijan



George Kremlis, Princess Firas of Jordan, Andrew Potts, USA Pavilion COP29, Baku Azerbaijan



George Kremlis, keynote speaker at Balkan Economic Forum in Zagreb, Croatia

Throughout **2024**, both the **Director of the Institute, George Kremlis** and the **Deputy Director, Garyfallia Selimi**, were featured as invited speakers at major international conferences. Their contributions spanned a wide array of high-level forums, including the **Delphi Economic Forum in Greece**, the **Cyprus Economic Forum**, the **Balkan Economic Forum**, The **Economist Conferences**, The Sustainable Waste and Solid Management, and events in Sofia and Brussels. Notably, the Director participated as a speaker at the **Our Ocean Conference 2024**, contributing to the global dialogue on ocean sustainability and climate action. In addition, following an official invitation by the Thessaloniki International Fair (TIF), the Institute played an instrumental role in shaping the *Forward Green Expo*, further amplifying its impact on green innovation and policy.

In recognition of her scientific contributions, Deputy Director **Garyfallia Selimi** was honored with a prestigious award from the **Women Economic Forum 2024**, underscoring the Institute’s growing influence and the caliber of its leadership on the global stage.

On **3 November 2024**, the Institute co-organized the **3rd International One Health Conference – Mediterranean: Humanity’s Crossroads for Climate, Child and Maternal Health**, hosted at the EPLO premises at the Roman Agora. This high-level event brought together leading experts, policymakers, and health professionals to explore the vital interlinkages between climate change and public health in the Mediterranean region. The key outcomes of the Conference were later presented at COP29, further expanding the Institute’s influence within global climate and health governance platforms. In **December 2024**, the Institute hosted a high-level workshop entitled **The Outcomes of COP29**, at the EPLO premises at the Roman Agora. The event brought together key stakeholders, including the Ambassadors of Azerbaijan and Brazil in Greece, climate diplomacy experts, and representatives of civil society. Their active participation fostered a dynamic and forward-looking exchange on the outcomes of COP29 and the evolving landscape of multilateral climate negotiations in the lead-up to COP30.

The Deputy Director, **Garyfallia Selimi**, represented EPLO at the UNECE Espoo Convention and the SEA Protocol at the Conference of the Parties in December 2024, in Geneva.

Publications, articles & interviews

Throughout the year, both the **Director George Kremlis** and the **Deputy Director Garyfallia Selimi** published a wide range of articles and opinion pieces, while also contributing to numerous interviews in prominent media outlets, and internationally recognized scientific journals. Their publications have further amplified the visibility of the Institute’s work, while shaping the discourse on circular economy, climate neutrality, and sustainable development at both academic and policy-making levels.

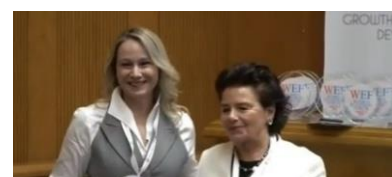
Some indicative examples include the technical analysis by **Deputy Director Garyfallia Selimi** titled “EU Emissions Trading System (ETS): Towards zero-carbon maritime transportation and Green Ports” published in *Technical Annals*, Vol. 1, No. 8 (2024) and an in-depth piece on waste management titled “Analyzing the Greek Legal Framework on Waste Management within the Circular Economy Context: Lessons Learnt and Best Practices from the EU”, published in *Technical Annals*, Vol. 1 No. 4.



George Kremlis, Gianni Chianetta, Grammenos Mastrojeni, Francesco Corvaro at the Greek Pavilion, COP29, Baku, Azerbaijan



George Kremlis at the opening ceremony of “Forward Green” in Thessaloniki International Fair



Garyfallia Selimi upon receiving her award at the Women Economic Forum 2024



George Kremlis as a speaker at Cyprus Forum 2024



Garyfallia Selimi, George Kremlis, Domenico Vito, Alessia Fiumi, at the One Health Conference, Athens, EPLO



“The Outcomes of COP29” workshop. George Kremlis, the Ambassador of Azerbaijan, Mr. Arif Mammadov, The Minister-Counselor of the Embassy of Brazil, Mr. Pedro Cardoso



Garyfallia Selimi at the Meeting of the parties of the UNECE Espoo Convention, Palais des Nations, Geneva

European Institute of Management and Governance (EIMG)



European Institute of Management and Governance

The European Institute of Management and Governance (EIMG) was established with the vision of becoming a leading institution in management development, consulting, and policy research. EIMG supports the design and organization of tailored scientific-technical support and of training activities addressing key issues of management and governance. EIMG collaborates closely with

EPLO's Department of Technical Cooperation in submitting proposals, in implementing capacity-building initiatives, and in providing expertise activities. The Director of the EIMG is **Ms. Vasiliki Moustakatou**.

During the reporting period, EIMG's Director continued to participate as a Key Expert in the capacity building activities in the program "Support to the Institute of Public Administration of Jordan" that was assigned to EPLO, as the project leading organization, by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS Amman). The project was run by EPLO's Technical Cooperation Department and was completed in November 2024. One of the main outputs of the program was the Diploma on 'Public Administration and Policy Making' which was adopted as a government priority measure to be launched before the end of 2025. Since then, EIMG's Director was involved in the conceptual preparation of the new Program "Support to Public Administration Reform – Jordan", which officially commenced in May 2025. The project is run by EPLO's Technical Cooperation Department and financed by AICS Amman. EIMG's Director resumed a Key Expert position to support IPA in ensuring the successful and qualitative implementation of the 1st "Professional Diploma in Public Administration and Policy".



EIMG's Director, Ms. Vasiliki Moustakatou, in a ToT Workshop on "Digital Transformation" with Professors of Jordan Universities-IPA Trainers, in Amman, on 16 July 2025

In the period **July 2024-July 2025** EIMG, in close collaboration with EPLO's Legal, Marketing, and HR Departments, monitored and concluded successfully the implementation of the agreement between EPLO and the Centre for Lifelong Learning (KEDIVIM) "Easy Education", focused on evaluating the quality of the educational programs offered by the Centre for the preparation of candidates for ASEP's recruitment competitions for the Greek public sector.

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Institute for Global Health Emergencies Response (IGHER)



Institute for Global Health Emergencies Response (IGHER)

The **Institute for Global Health Emergencies Response (IGHER)** was established in November 2021, and it has its seat at the EPLO Office in Rome. **IGHER** aims to promote research, development of studies, opinions, education, and training in the field of health emergencies of a global or multinational dimension.

The Director of IGHER is **Matteo Gnes**, full professor of Administrative Law and Deputy Director of the Law Department of the University of Urbino Carlo Bo (Italy).

The field of interest of IGHER includes the study and research of situations characterized as global and/or international health emergencies to identify the instruments to be used for their management, the models of public communication, and the best practices used both at the legislative and administrative levels.

In the period 2024-2025 the activities carried out by IGHER focused (as in the previous year) on the "**One Health Strategy**", i.e. an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of humans, animals, plants and ecosystems, recognizing that the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants

and the wider environment are closely linked and interdependent (as stated by FAO, UNEP, WHO and WOA, in the so called [quadripartite definition](#)). In this respect, IGHER cooperated with the research activities of the [Global Pandemic Network – GPN](#) and the [One Health Conference](#), also by supporting the organization of [the third international One Health Conference](#) (on the specific topic of “Mediterranean: Humanity’s Crossroads for Climate, Child and Maternal Health”) which took place at the premises of EPLo in Athens, on 15-17 October 2024, and of the fourth international One Health Conference, which will take place in Rome on 1-4 October 2025. In January 2024, IGHER subscribed to its first cooperation agreement with the Law Department of the University of Urbino Carlo Bo (Italy), to carry out joint research programs.



Third International One Health Conference, Athens, 15-17 October 2024



Prof. Matteo Gnes, IGHER’s Director, at the Third International One Health Conference, Athens, 15-17 October 2024

European Institute for Criminal Law & Criminal Justice System



Institute for Criminal Law & Criminal Justice System

The European Institute for Criminal Law & Criminal Justice System is added to EPLo’s broad range of Institutes. It brings together leading scholars to explore central issues in classical criminal law doctrine as well as the philosophical foundations of criminal law. In particular, it is concerned with the doctrinal and philosophical analysis of contemporary problems in European criminal law and the law of individual European states (including the UK). To this

end, the Institute runs workshops and conferences. Furthermore, its statute foresees the possibility that the Institute will, in the near future, offer a taught postgraduate degree. The Institute operates as an autonomous unit of EPLo under the responsibility of its Director and Scientific Council. The Scientific Council includes 21 scholars of international reputation, from many different European jurisdictions, specializing in criminal law, the philosophy of criminal law, or theoretical criminology. **Ioannis Giannidis**, Professor Emeritus, is the Director of the Institute.

Institute of Sustainable Water Management and Water Law



Institute of Sustainable Water Management and Water Law

The **Institute of Sustainable Water Management and Water Law** is serving as a think tank and project leader on issues relevant to the water management and law, aiming at offering support to governments and organizations in realizing the best practices for sustainable water management and identifying or creating the proper legal

framework for ensuring appropriate and sustainable water use and distribution. The Institute’s mission is to help address water related issues, mainly in Central and Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean, by promoting cooperation between non-governmental organizations, governments, businesses, and other environmental policy makers, as well as the free exchange of information and public participation in decision making.

Director of the Institute is Professor **Ioannis Katsoyiannis**, Full Professor for Environmental Technology at the Department of Chemistry at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. Furthermore, Prof. Katsoyiannis is currently Associate Editor at the Springer Journal Environmental Science and Pollution Research and visiting Professor at the University of Ca Foscari in Venice. Administrative Director is Ms. **Iliana Kosti**, Lawyer of Athens.

Main Activities in 2025

Water Scarcity Issue -Buzz Events in Chios Island

21-23 March, 2025

In March 2025, on the occasion of the World Water Day, the Institute of Sustainable Water Management and Water Law, in cooperation the Municipal Water and Sewage Company of the island of Chios (DEYA Chios), organized three days of events, which included two street actions to improve public awareness about the water scarcity issue and increase citizens engagement in the protection of water resources and two high-level workshops held in the cities of Chios and Kardamyla, with speakers from Academia, Industry and Politics. These activities comprised part of the execution of a Program with DEYA Chios titled: *"Awareness raising actions for the general public on the problem of water shortage/scarcity and strategies to confront it with emphasis on the wastewater reuse"*.



The team of EPLO together with Mr. Koutoulakis, Secretary General of Aegean and Island Policy and the president of DEYA Chios, Mr. Manolakis and members of the ministry of Aegean and Island Policy as well as from DEYA Chios



Panel discussion at the workshop held at Homerion Cultural Center in the city of Chios. Participants are: the mayor of Chios, Mr. Malafis, the Secretary General of the Ministry of Aegean and Island Policy, Mr. Koutoulakis, the President of DEYA Chios, Mr. Manolakis and the Director of the Institute of Sustainable Water Management and Water Law, Professor Katsoyiannis. The Panel was moderated by Mr. Lialios, journalist for the Kathimerini newspaper

Workshop on the Occasion of World

Environment Day

5 July 2025

The Institute organized a high-level workshop on the occasion of the World Environment Day, together with the Circular Economy and Climate Institute of the EPLO, the Hellenic-American Commercial Chamber and the Club of Rome.

Institute of Global Rule of Law (IGRoL)



Global Rule of Law Institute

In 2022, the EPLO established the **Institute of the Global Rule of Law (IGRoL)**. Its mandate is to develop and promote the principles of the Rule of Law at an international, scientific, and educational level. The Institute supports the **EPLO Global Rule of Law Commission (GRoLC)**, follows its discussions, and executes its decisions. It operates from the **EPLO Regional Branch in Cascais, Portugal**, and it is under the

leadership of **Dr. Teresa Violante**. Her role is honorary and discretionary.

Rule of Law Reports

The Institute of the Global Rule of Law conducts research and assists the EPLO GRoLC in preparing Rule of Law Reports, with the support of the **EPLO European Law and Governance School (ELGS)**. The Rule of Law report is a significant document presented annually to the UN General Assembly Sixth Committee. The 2024 report dedicated to the **Rule of Law in North America** was submitted to the UN General Assembly Sixth Committee on 15 November 2024, and the 2025 Annual Report dedicated to the **Rule of Law in Africa** will be submitted in October 2025.

International Conference on the Rule of Law and the Independence of the Judiciary 18-19 January 2025, Cascais, Portugal

The EPLO GRoL Institute co-organized with the Municipality of Cascais and the EPLO Regional Branch in Portugal an **International Conference on the Rule of Law and the Independence of the Judiciary**. The Conference addressed institutional safeguards, as well as the political, legal, and social climate necessary to ensure the independence of justice. It provided case studies of contemporary challenges and battles for the independence of justice, analyzing, in particular, court-packing attempts versus legitimate reforms of the judiciary and the role of international courts.

Master's Program on Global Rule of Law and Democracy

The EPLO GRoL Institute, in cooperation with the EPLO ELGS and the EPLO Regional Branch in Portugal, successfully launched a **Master's Program on Global Rule of Law and Democracy in Cascais, Portugal**, as described previously in the ELGS relevant chapter. The first edition of this program brought together six graduate students from Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Somalia. The EPLO GRoL Institute provided day-to-day support to the students, coordinated the program of lectures, and organized study visits to public institutions and international organizations.



Dr. Teresa Violante, Director of the Institute of the Global Rule of Law

Scientific contribution to the Project "Justice Reform Monitoring in Armenia" (JUREMONIA)

21 July 2025

Within the framework of cooperation between the EPLO and the Eurasia International University in Yerevan, Armenia, the Director of the EPLO GRoL Institute, Dr. **Teresa Violante**, was invited to deliver a lecture, as part of the JUREMONIA - Justice Reform Monitoring in Armenia - project. The lecture focused on the activities and methodologies of the Global Rule of Law Commission established by EPLO, the most recent developments regarding access to justice as an essential element of the Rule of Law in a comparative perspective, and the most recent trends and global challenges to the Rule of Law. The presentation was followed by an in-depth Q&A session with the participants.



Students of the Master Program in Global Rule of Law and Democracy with Prof. N. Voulagris (ELGS) and V. Scherk-Arsenio (IGRoL)

As a second part of the activity, **Dr. T. Violante** further provided guidance to Fellows of the JUST FAIR initiative working on the research projects related to access to justice, on the formulation of research questions, project design, and methodology, as well as advice on relevant resources to facilitate their research.

Regional Environmental Institute (REI)



Regional Environmental Institute

The Institute operates as a think tank, an excellence hub, a platform for new thinking, and as a generator for actions and projects on issues related to the Environment and Climate Change. The mission of REI is to assist in addressing environmental issues mainly in Central and Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean, through the promotion of cooperation among non-governmental organizations, governments, businesses, and other environmental stakeholders, as well as the free exchange of information and

public participation in environmental decision-making. The strategic goal of REI is to assist beneficiary countries in solving environmental problems through (1) the implementation of projects (research and development, policy upgrade and implementation, technical assistance, capacity building projects, etc.), and (2) education. REI is directed by **Dr. Dejan Komatina**, Strategic Director, and **Dr. Rade Glomazic**, Executive Director.

Institute for Regulatory Innovation, Delivery, and Effectiveness (IRIDE)



Institute for
Regulatory
Innovation,
Delivery and
Effectiveness

The Institute for Regulatory Innovation, Delivery, and Effectiveness (IRIDE) of the EPLO was established in **November 2023**. IRIDE's mission is to promote the effective and efficient delivery of good-quality regulation based on international good practices. It reflects an outcome-focused, evidence-driven, and risk-based approach to regulation, regulatory practices, and public service delivery. The Director of the Institute is **Dr. Florentin Blanc**.

IRIDE has carried out advisory and technical assistance projects, engaged in seminars and workshops, and established partnership agreements to foster cooperation.

Collaborations and Events

In collaboration with ELGS, the Institute introduced a module on Regulatory Delivery during the Fall semester of the 2024–2025 academic year, offered to students of the LL.M. in EU Law and the M.A. in Governance.

The Director has also represented the Institute at various conferences and events as a speaker and moderator. Notably, on **14–15 October 2024**, he participated in the **2024 CoRE Scientific Conference: *Regulating the Future of Health in Singapore***.

On **11–12 February 2025**, the **International Symposium "Major Public Risks: Achieving Effective Regulatory Supervision"** was held in Vilnius, Lithuania. Organized by the Institute, in partnership with Vilnius University Faculty of Law and key Lithuanian supervisory institutions, the event marked the first of a series to be held in Lithuania. Bringing together senior officials, policymakers, experts, and researchers, the Symposium focused on regulatory strategies to manage major public risks in five critical areas: energy security, environmental protection, food safety, public health, and infrastructure resilience.



2024 CoRE Scientific Conference
Participants and Distinguished Speakers



Panel Discussion - How do we envision the
regulatory ecosystem and partnerships by
2030

On the initiative of the Institute, on **26 May 2025**, the EPLO has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania.



Participants of the International
Symposium "Major Public Risks: Achieving
Effective Regulatory Supervision"



International Symposium "Major Public
Risks: Achieving Effective Regulatory
Supervision"

The Memorandum was signed between **Professor Spyridon**

Flogaitis, Director of the EPLO, and **Mr. Rimantas Mockus**, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Lithuania.

Mediterranean Migration and Asylum Policy Hub (MedMA)



An Agency
of the EPLO



The Mediterranean Migration and Asylum Policy Hub (MedMA) is an agency of the EPLO established in 2022. It aspires to build bridges between knowledge production, fieldwork, and policy-making. MedMA's strategic approach is anchored in three core pillars: Research, Engagement, and Influence. Through these channels, we aim to enhance policy

understanding, foster best practices, and navigate common challenges across the Mediterranean. Our goal is to reimagine the way our region addresses migration by providing direct technical assistance and crafting actionable policy recommendations to effectively address the complex challenges of migration and integration. **Dr. Markos Karavias** is the Director of MedMA.

Policy Study: Offshoring Migration- Risking Rights: The Italy–Albania Migration Protocol in the EU’s Externalization Playbook

7 November 2024

The Mediterranean Migration and Asylum Policy Hub published a policy study on the agreement between Italy and Albania to set up Italian-operated migration centers in Albania, aimed at tackling irregular migration.

Webinar: “Understanding the Italy-Albania Migration Deal”

7 November 2024

Dr. Markos Karavias, Director of MedMA, led a discussion on this agreement between Italy and Albania. The panel featured experts **Hector Ruci**, **Professor Eda Gemi**, and **Professor Mario Savino**, who explored key issues such as the outsourcing of migration management, the legal and sovereignty challenges involved, the potential impact on human rights, and how this arrangement aligns with EU migration policies.

Visit to Moldova

16-19 March 2025

Exchange with officials from the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Labor, NGO representatives active in the field of Migration and Asylum, and groups of Ukrainian refugees.

PROJECT: “Providing Pathways to Protection: Exchange of Expertise between Greece and Norway”

March - April 2025

The project was implemented by the General Secretariat for Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum in Greece, in partnership with the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and the Mediterranean Migration and Asylum Policy Hub (MedMA). Its goal is to enhance the development and implementation of secure and legal pathways to international protection, with a focus on resettlement and humanitarian admission programs. As part of this project, a MedMA exchange study visit to Oslo, Norway, took place on 7-8 April 2025, and a Policy Report: “Providing Pathways to Protection: Exchange of expertise between Greece and Norway” was published on 16 April 2025.

Webinar: “Providing Pathways to Protection”

11 April 2025

The Webinar’s Speakers included: **Heracles Moskoff**, Secretary General for Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection, Ministry of Migration and Asylum, Greece, **Markos Karavias**, Director, Mediterranean Migration and Asylum Policy Hub (MedMA), **Maria Gabrielsen Jumbert**, Senior Researcher, Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Norway, **Petros Mastakas** – Durable Solutions Officer, UNHCR



The High-Level Policy Dialogue: “A Mediterranean Perspective on Current Migration Governance: Challenges and Prospects”

22 May 2025, Florence, Italy

MedMA organized, jointly with the Florence School of Transnational Governance, a high-level policy dialogue on sustainable migration policies in the Mediterranean.



Policy Dialogue in Florence

NEW European Institute for the Study of Chinese Law, Governance & Civilization (EISCL)



European Institute for the Study of Chinese Law, Governance & Civilization

The European Institute for the Study of Chinese Law, Governance, & Civilization (EISCL) was officially established on **30 December 2024**. In the spring of 2025, the Scientific Council held its inaugural meetings, honored by the presence of the Director of the EPLO and President of its Board of Directors, Professor **Spyridon Flogaitis**. Held in a collaborative and

multidisciplinary setting, these meetings laid the foundation for the Institute's future strategic direction. To inform about its mission, activities, and personnel, the EISCL has launched an official website, accessible in both Greek and English.

The EISCL is a new Institute under the EPLO umbrella dedicated to fostering dialogue between China and Europe in the areas of Chinese Law, Governance, and Civilization. The Institute's director is **George Katrougalos**, a distinguished Professor of Public Law, UN Independent Expert on a Democratic and Equitable International Order, and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece. The Institute's members have contacted Universities both in and outside of Europe to establish research projects and networks. Furthermore, information about the Institute's establishment and its goals has been broadly disseminated. The meetings scheduled to take place at the Chinese Embassy are also aligned with the Institute's mission.



Director of EISCL Prof. George Katrougalos chairing a panel at a Beijing Conference

NEW Institute for Higher Education Law & Governance (IHELG)



Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance

The Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance (IHELG) is home to sponsored research and academic programs and projects that examine higher education systems and policy issues from a wide range of analytical perspectives, including those of social scientists, policy makers, and institutional leaders from across sectors within Europe and abroad. The Director of the Institute is Associate Professor **Luca Lantero**.

EUROPEAN PUBLIC LAW ORGANIZATION

ATHENS, GREECE

16, Achaïou St., Kolonaki, Athens, GR-106 75
2, Polygnotou & Dioskouron St., Plaka, Athens, GR-105 55

SOUNION, GREECE

64th km Athens-Sounion Ave., GR-19 500

T: +30 211 311 0 671, E: info@eplo.int

WS: www.eplo.int

ROME, ITALY

Palazzo Altemps, Piazza S. Apollinare 46,
00186 Rome, Italy

T: +39 0635292619, +30 2113110697

E: info@eplo.int

W: worldpresence.eplo.int/rome/

CASCAIS, PORTUGAL

Casa de Santa Maria,
Rua do Farol de Santa Marta 16,
2750-461 Cascais, Portugal

E: info@eplo.int

W: worldpresence.eplo.int/cascais/

TBILISI, GEORGIA

5, Kostava St. Tbilisi, 0108 Georgia

E: info@eplo.int

W: worldpresence.eplo.int/south-caucasus/

BRČKO, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Trg Mladih br.8a, 76100 Brčko, BiH

E: info@eplo.int

W: worldpresence.eplo.int/brcko/



18th Anniversary, EPLO, Roman Agora Athens