



Call for Papers

CHALLENGES TO EU LAW AND GOVERNANCE IN THE MEMBER STATES

Conference at the European University Institute

Florence, 8 June 2018

Eurosceptic and nationalist forces have been gaining ground in many Member States. The ideal of an ever closer union, built on fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, has been shaken by the UK's decision to leave the EU and by illiberal democratic developments in Hungary and Poland. The free movement of citizens, economic migration and the influx of third-country refugees tend to be particularly controversial in the Member States.

Against this backdrop, we are pleased to invite submissions for a conference that will examine to what extent the EU is being politicised and its law challenged in the Member States. The focus will not only be on Member States that are known to be highly critical of the EU; for a complete picture, the aim is rather to find out whether challenges to EU law and governance are frequent occurrences or merely highly visible exceptions.

The conference has two objectives. The first is to establish whether Euroscepticism takes the form of specific criticism of EU legislation and case law. Do governments and/or political parties criticise particular pieces of EU law and policy, and do they propose, or take, initiatives that are incompatible with those of the Union? Second, the conference will explore to what extent criticism of the EU is translated into actual changes in national law. Is Eurosceptic rhetoric made manifest in the domestic legislation or case law of the Member States?

The conference will be held on 8 June 2018 at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy under the auspices of the Max Weber Programme.

Keynote speaker

The keynote address will be delivered by Michal Bobek, Advocate General at the Court of Justice of the EU and author of numerous works on the interaction of EU law and national legal systems. He was previously Professor of European Law at the College of Europe, Research Fellow at the Institute of European and Comparative Law of the University of Oxford as well as legal secretary to the Chief Justice and head of the Research and Documentation Department at the Supreme Administrative Court of the Czech Republic.

Topics of interest

We welcome a wide variety of proposals on the theme of the conference from scholars of law or political science. Special attention will be paid to the “people dimension” of European integration.

Topics of interest for submission include, but are not limited to:

- Country or regional studies, either confined to reactions to a particular legislative measure or ECJ ruling or more broadly concerned with attitudes towards EU law within the selected Member State(s);
- Doctrinal and/or empirical studies that examine the implementation and enforcement of EU law in one or several Member States;
- Doctrinal and/or empirical studies on the conditions and mechanisms that affect the ability and inclination of Member States to enact policy change that is incompatible with their EU commitments.
- Contributions on challenges to EU law and policy related to the free movement of people;
- Contributions on challenges to EU law and policy in the area of migration and asylum law.

Submission

Please send an abstract of no more than 400 words to EUMSConf@eui.eu by 18 February 2018. Successful applicants will be notified by 1 March 2018. Full drafts of papers are due by 15 May 2018.

We aim to publish a selection of the conference papers in an edited collection. Abstracts should be submitted on the basis that the paper will be available for publication.

Costs

Participation in the conference is free of charge. Participants will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses.

Conference registration

General registration for the conference is open until 15 May 2018. Please send an e-mail to EUMSConf@eui.eu. Numbers are limited and early registration is recommended.

Conference conveners

The conference is convened by Dr Anna Wallerman and Dr Clara Rauegger, both Max Weber Fellows at the Law Department of the European University Institute.

To contact the conveners, please e-mail EUMSConf@eui.eu.