

CALL FOR PAPERS

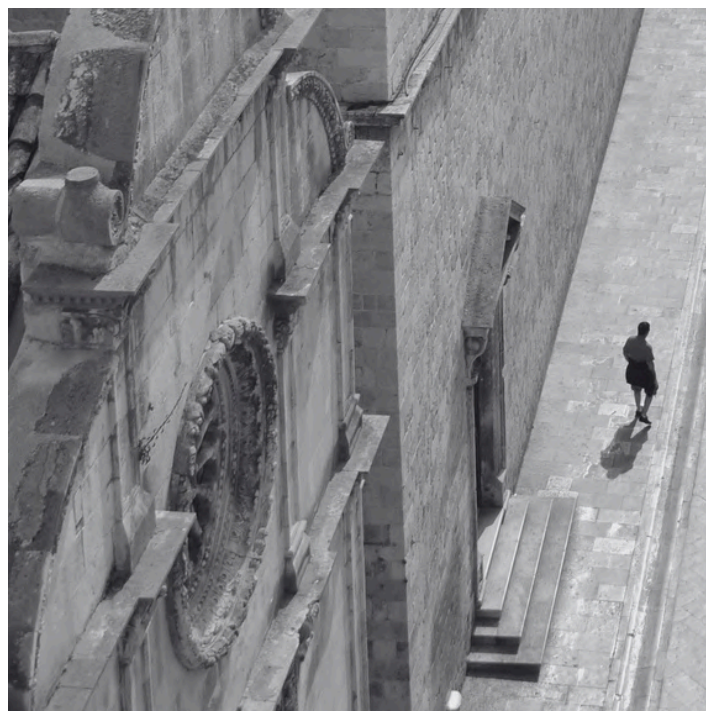


**REINFORCING
THE UNION
OF VALUES**



**23RD DUBROVNIK
JEAN MONNET SEMINAR:
ADVANCED ISSUES
OF EUROPEAN LAW**

**19-22 April 2026 | Akademis Academia
DUBROVNIK, CROATIA**



**JEAN MONNET
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

**‘Reinforcing
the Rule of Law
and EU Values’**



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REINFORCING THE UNION OF VALUES

SEMINAR TOPIC

The 23rd session of the Jean Monnet Seminar, organised by the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence 'Reinforcing the Rule of Law and EU Values' at the University of Zagreb – Faculty of Law, will focus on the topic of 'Reinforcing the Union of Values'.

Values have become the keyword in the European Union's legal and political vocabulary. They are arguably the most frequently invoked and at the same time the most contested element of the EU's constitutional fabric. It all started with challenges to the rule of law in several Member States. Soon afterwards the question of values appeared beneath the old tensions that permeate EU law- and policy-making, including those between the market and social justice, national interests and solidarity, and integration and diversity. It was also seen in the Union's struggle with democratic backsliding at home, as well as its efforts to promote and safeguard human rights abroad or find its place and sustain political legitimacy in a rapidly changing world. The appeal to values therefore came to occupy the centre of contemporary constitutional, political, and jurisprudential debates in the EU, and values have become the focal point through which the Union defines both its internal order and external role.

Still, many questions remain. What exactly are these values? Where do they come from, how common are they, and in which way do they bring Member States together (or pull them apart)? How are they defined and (re)shaped, and by whom? How can they be interpreted, enforced, and defended? What role do they play in the political and judicial processes and in everyday life of EU citizens and non-citizens? And how do they impact the Union of today, and might affect the Union of tomorrow?

This seminar will bring together scholars of EU law and related disciplines to engage in a critical dialogue about the meaning, application, reach, and evolution of values in the EU legal order – in general or as they are found in specific areas of law – and also to try to imagine different ways of looking at these foundational questions and dilemmas.

PARTICIPATING FACULTY

Nika Bačić Selanec
University of Zagreb

Gráinne de Búrca
European University Institute

Monica Claes
Maastricht University

Tamara Čapeta
Court of Justice of the EU

Sacha Garben
College of Europe

Iris Goldner Lang
University of Zagreb

Tamara Perišin
Court of Justice of the EU

Siniša Rodin
Court of Justice of the EU

Daniel Sarmiento (tbc)
Universidad Complutense

Andrew Williams (tbc)
University of Warwick

REINFORCING THE UNION OF VALUES

STRUCTURE OF THE SEMINAR

The Seminar entails two parts – lectures by invited speakers (academics and senior practitioners) and presentations by PhD candidates and junior scholars.

APPLICATION

Organisers welcome contributions that address, among others, the following themes:

- **constitutional and institutional dimensions:** constitutional status and evolution of EU values – Article 2 TEU and beyond; value jurisprudence of the Court of Justice and national courts; legal mechanisms for safeguarding EU values
- **political and social dimensions:** democracy in the EU; EU values, market, and social justice; values, identities, and pluralism – managing diversity within the Union in times of internal fragmentation; the role of civil society, academia, and the media in defending and challenging EU values
- **global dimension:** EU values in external relations and their interaction with international law and global governance, in times of geopolitical turbulences
- **theoretical dimension:** conceptual, theoretical, and philosophical perspectives on EU values (and related notions of principles and rights) – are they universal, European, justiciable, or merely political constructs?

Paper proposal (up to 500 words) and a CV should be submitted by 31 January 2026 to jmseminar.dubrovnik@gmail.com.

Successful applicants will be notified by 15 February 2026, and will be required to submit a full draft paper by 5 April 2026.

Authors will be expected to submit their completed papers for publication in the *Croatian Yearbook of European Law and Policy* (www.cyelp.com) by 30 June 2026 (to be published by December 2026).

SEMINAR WEBPAGE

www.pravo.unizg.hr/ejp/jean_monnet_seminar

