

**Strasbourg Observers 15th Anniversary Symposium**

**Programme**

8-9 May 2025, [KANTL](https://maps.app.goo.gl/K4GEWP3NJQ549eyb7) Ghent

# Timetable

# Thursday 8 May

10:30 - 11:00 Registration

11.00 - 11.30 Welcome

11:30 - 12:30 Opening panel

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch break

13:30 - 15:15 Parallel panels 1 and 2

15:15 - 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 - 17:30 Parallel panels 3 and 4

17:30 - 19:00 Reception

**Friday 9 May**

9:00 - 10:45 Parallel panels 5 and 6

10:45 - 11:15 Break

11:15 - 13:00 Parallel panels 7 and 8

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 - 15:30 Keynote speaker (streamed)

**THURSDAY 8 May 2025**

**11:30-12:30 Opening panel - Observing Strasbourg: merits and challenges**

Panel on the place of blogging in the ECtHR scholarship landscape: discussion with blog contributors and readers

* Meghan Campbell (University of Birmingham) – Oxford Human Rights Hub
* Antoine Buyse (Utrecht University) – ECHR Blog
* Harriet Ní Chinnéide (Hasselt University) and Tobias Mortier (Ghent University) – Strasbourg Observers

Moderator: Ingrida Milkaite (Ghent University)

**13:30-15:15 Parallel panels 1 and 2**

# Panel 1: Stereotyped narratives on migration

* Dolores Morondo Taramundi (University of Deusto): *The role of vulnerability in stereotyping discrimination against migrants*
* Elena Ghidoni (University of Deusto): *Testing the limits of the anti-stereotyping principle in the context of migrants’ family rights*
* Encarnación La Spina (University of Deusto): *“Refugees could not be irregular migrants”: questioning the (in)vulnerable stereotypical categories in the European Court of Human Rights*

Respondent: Georgios Serghides (ECtHR Judge on behalf of Cyprus)

Chair: Alexandra Timmer (Utrecht University)

# Panel 2: Linguistic approaches and/to the ECtHR

* Yuliia Khyzhniak (University of Groningen): *Previous judgments as narrative constraint: how the European Court of Human Rights narrates departures*
* Alberto Godioli & Jennifer Young (University of Groningen)*: Humour, satire and the meaning of ‘context’: interdisciplinary perspectives on ECtHR jurisprudence*
* Babette De Naeyer (University of Pompeu Fabra): *Speaking before thinking: revisiting the ECtHR’s distinction between written and spoken expression*

# Respondent*:* Kateřina Šimáčková (ECtHR Judge on behalf of the Czech Republic)

Chair: Lien Stolle (Ghent University)

**15:45-17:30 Parallel panels 3 and 4**

**Panel 3: Interaction with other legal orders**

* Akiko Ejima (Meiji University): *Global significance of the Strasbourg human rights case law – the impact of the ECtHR jurisprudence on Asian apex courts*
* Jasmine Sommardal (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law): *Five axes of alignment: the ECtHR’s approach to the EU legal order*
* Demetra Loizou (& Nadia Kornioti) (University of Central Lancashire): *The unbearable comfort of armed conflict in the case law of the ECtHR: a comparative analysis*

Respondent: Angelika Nußberger (former ECtHR Judge on behalf of Germany)

Chair: Thibaut Lesseliers (KU Leuven)

# Panel 4: Migration: a human rights challenge for Europe

* Pedro Sanz Diaz (Dublin City University) & Alex Geraki Trimi (Ghent University): *The ‘Strasbourg reversal’ beyond the state’s right to control immigration: the ECtHR’s unquestioned distinction between forced and voluntary migration*
* Jessica Klüger (VU Amsterdam and Justus Liebig University Giessen): *Litigation and influence: Unpacking the institutional dynamics of the Strasbourg Court in responding to governments’ arguments in migration case law*
* Monica Avila Curras (VU Amsterdam): *Stepping up against migrants: when states intervene as third parties*

Respondent**:** Frédéric Krenc (ECtHR Judge on behalf of Belgium)

Chair: Harriet Ní Chinnéide (Hasselt University)

**FRIDAY 9 May 2025**

**9:00-10:45 Parallel panels 5 and 6**

**Panel 5: Categorical inconsistencies and their consequences**

* Vladislava Stoyanova (Lund University): *Causation: Human Rights Law Style. Why and How for Establishing breach of positive obligations under the ECHR?*
* Gaia Zanotti (University of Edinburgh): *Does the ECtHR protect Labour rights? Some reflections on the jurisprudence of art. 1 prot. 1*
* Moritz Baumgärtel (University College Roosevelt, Middelburg and South-West University “Neofit Rlski”, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria): *Why the European Court of Human Rights Should Adopt an Animus-Based Approach to Xenophobic Discrimination*

# Respondent*:* María Elósegui (ECtHR Judge on behalf of Spain)

Chair: Sibel Yılmaz Coşkun (visiting researcher at Ghent University)

# Panel 6: Procedural and strategical configurations in a Court of Justice

* Joe Finnerty (University of Cologne): *Understanding ‘impact’?: The case prioritization strategy of the ECtHR*
* Lize Glas (Radboud University Nijmegen): *Putting the guarantee of non-repetition at the center in the ECtHR’s case law*
* Ezgi Özlu (University of Strasbourg)*: Exploring the place of interim measures in a ‘more balanced court’*

Respondent*:* Paul Lemmens (former ECtHR Judge on behalf of Belgium)

Chair: Stijn Smet (Hasselt University; VMRI)

**11:15-13:00 Parallel panels 7 and 8**

# Panel 7: Subsidiarity, restraint and procedural review

* Giulio Fedele (University of Rome ‘Unitelma Sapienza’): *From negative to positive subsidiarity. Insights from the application of the ECHR in horizontal disputes*
* Alain Zysset (University of Glasgow): *Normative gaps at the European Court of Human Rights: Merits and Limits of the ‘political process theory’ in Strasbourg*
* Lorenzo Acconciamessa (University of Palermo): *The Notion of “Shared Responsibility” and its Impact on the Relationships between the ECtHR and the Domestic Authorities*

Respondent: Oddný Mjöll Arnardóttir (ECtHR Judge on behalf of Iceland)

Chair: Laurens Lavrysen (Belgian Council of State)

# Panel 8: The fundamental or essential aspects of Convention rights

* Cathérine Van de Graaf (Ghent University and University of Cologne) and Beril Onder (University of Cologne): *Unpacking the Court’s unwillingness to investigate Article 14: not fundamental or distinct enough or too sensitive and complex?*
* Anaïs Brucher (European University Institute): *Unpacking the Many Uses of the ‘Essence of Rights’ in ECtHR Case Law: Symbol, Paradox and Normative Statement*
* Ioanna Pervou (Democritus University of Thrace): *The ECtHR as a state dispute court: what future for article 33 ECHR*

Respondent*:* Françoise Tulkens (former ECtHR Judge on behalf of Belgium)

Chair: Merel Vrancken (UHasselt)

**14:00-15:30 Keynote by Dr. Marialena Tsirli**

Chief Registrar of the European Court of Human Rights

Followed by discussion

Chair: Cathérine Van de Graaf (Ghent University and University of Cologne)