



# FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION OF LEGAL PROFESSIONALS: FACING THE RULE OF LAW CHALLENGES IN EUROPE

ONLINE CROSS-BORDER TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR JUDGES, PROSECUTORS,  
LAWYERS AND OTHER LEGAL PROFESSIONALS

Date 20-21 October 2021

Time 13.30-17.00 and 13.30-16.15, CET

Host Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

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## Programme

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Wednesday, 20 October, 13.30-17.00 (open to all interested)

### 13.30 Welcome Address and Presentation of TRIAL project

Jerca Kramberger Škerl | Vice Dean and President of Committee for  
Research and Development of the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

Saša Zagorc | Member of TRIAL and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Law,  
University of Ljubljana

### First panel: Legal Institutions under Stress: Lessons Learned, Questions Ahead

Moderator: Madalina Moraru | članica skupine TRIAL, Centre for Judicial Cooperation,  
European University Institute | Judicial Studies Institute – JUSTIN, Masaryk University

### 13.45 Can Law Protect Democracy? Legal Institutions as “Speed Bumps”

Bojan Bugarič | School of Law, University of Sheffield

### 14.05 The Lawyers v. Law Graduates: on the Role of **LAWYERS** in Upholding the Rule of Law

Tomasz Koncewicz | member of TRIAL, University of Gdansk

- 14.25**      **Coping with the Authoritarian Takeover of Justice: The Polish Experience**  
Jarosław Gwizdak | member of TRIIAL, Institute for Law and Society - INPRIS | former Polish judge
- 14.45**      **Backsliding into Judicial Oligarchy? The Cautionary Tale of Georgia's Failed Judicial Reforms, Informal Judicial Networks and Limited Access to Leadership Positions**  
Nino Tsereteli | Judicial Studies Institute - JUSTIN, Masaryk University
- 15.05**      **Discussion**
- 15.20**      Break

**Second panel: Protecting Freedom of Expression of Legal Professionals: Standards and Avenues**

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Moderator: Raluca Bercea | Member of TRIIAL, National Association of the Romanian Bars (UNBR) | Faculty of Law, University of Timișoara

- 15.30**      **The Freedom of Expression of the Judge under Article 10 ECHR**  
Sietske Dijkstra | Judge at Court House of Groningen
- 15.50**      **The Role of EU Law in Protecting the Freedom of Expression of Legal Professionals**  
Nicole Lazzerini | member of TRIIAL, Assistant Professor of EU Law, University of Florence (Department of Legal Sciences).
- 16.10**      Break
- 16.15**      **Freedom of Expression of Legal Professionals before the National Courts: Presentation of national Case-law**  
Tiago Fidalgo Freitas | Lisbon Public Law, University of Lisbon  
Federica Casarosa | Centre for Judicial Cooperation, European University Institute  
Mohor Fajdiga | member of TRIIAL, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana
- 16.45**      **Discussion**
- 17.00**      **End of First Day**

Thursday, 21 October, 13.30–16.15 (only for selected participants)

## **Freedom of Expression of Lawyers versus Protection of the Authority of the Judiciary: Hypothetical Case Scenario**

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**13.30 Hypothetical Case: Introductory presentation**

Mohor Fajdiga | member of TRIIAL, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

**13.45 Discussion in Three Parallel Working Group Sessions**

**14.30 Conclusions of the Working Groups in the Plenary Session**

**15.00 Break**

## **Roundtable Session: Judges as Citizens - Time to End of Self-Isolation?**

(in Slovene with simultaneous translation to English)

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Moderator: Saša Zagorc | Member of TRIIAL and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

**15.15 Views of the Panellists**

Vesna Bergant Rakočević | Vice President of Higher Court of Ljubljana | President of the Slovene Association of Judges

Simona Toplak | Editor in Chief at Finance Business Daily (Largest Slovene Business Online Media)

Jasna Zakonjšek | Attorney at Zakonjšek Law Firm

Boštjan Zalar | Senior High Court Judge at Administrative Court of Slovenia | Professor at the University of Ljubljana | Chairman of the European Chapter of International Association of Refugee and Migration Judges | Ad Hoc ECtHR judge

**15.35 Discussion**

**16.10 Concluding Remarks**

Saša Zagorc | Member of TRIIAL and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

Mohor Fajdiga | member of TRIIAL, Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana

**16.15 End of Second Day**