

European Law Summer School
Paris, 8 - 11 September 2026

European Law in an Illiberal Era

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Le droit européen à l'ère illibérale

Anastasia Iliopoulou-Penot & Edouard Dubout (dir.)
University Paris Panthéon Assas
Centre for European Law



Europe is increasingly confronted with the resurgence of illiberal ideas. Isolated on the international stage and weakened from within, the European project stands at a critical turning point in its history. How does this existential challenge manifest itself in EU institutions, laws and policies? How is European legal discourse responding to the illiberal threat?

The Summer Academy seeks to explore key themes of European law in the illiberal era, including the EU's external relations, migration, freedom of expression, the governance of the digital sphere, as well as minority rights and their relationship to democracy.

To apply, please send the attached form completed at
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Fee for students : 150 euros
Fee for professionals : 300 euros

Programme

Tuesday 8 September (afternoon)

Venue: Centre Panthéon, 12 place du Panthéon, salle 4

16.00 Welcome address

Anastasia Iliopoulou-Penot and Edouard Dubout, Paris Panthéon-Assas University

Opening Keynotes

The Question of Union Competences in the Anti-liberal Era

Michael Dougan, Liverpool Law School

The Court of Justice of the EU as a Constitutional Court

Tamara Čapeta, Advocate General, Court of Justice of the EU

Cocktail Reception, Appartement Decanal

Wednesday 9 September- Workshops

Venue : Centre de droit européen, 28 rue Saint-Guillaume, salle Denis Tallon (groundfloor)

9.00 The Rule of Law in the EU External Action

Christophe Hillion, University of Oslo

11.00 Démocratie militante et lutte contre la désinformation

Thomas Hochmann, Paris-Nanterre University

14.00 Liberalism inside, illiberalism outside ? EU migration policies and agreements with non-democratic third-States

Thibaut Fleury-Graff, Paris Panthéon-Assas University

Visit of the European Space Agency

Thursday 10 September- Workshops & Book Presentation

Venue : Centre de droit européen, 28 rue Saint-Guillaume, salle Denis Tallon (groundfloor)

9.00 Why the Enforcement of EU Digital Rules Matters for Liberal Democracy

Anastasia Iliopoulou-Penot, Paris Panthéon-Assas University

11.00 LGBTQI+ Rights in EU Law

Luke Dimitri Spieker, Humboldt University of Berlin & MPIL

14.00 Des droits illibéraux ? La grande inversion

Edouard Dubout, Paris Panthéon-Assas University

16.30 Book Presentation

The Dark Enlightenment / Les Lumières sombres (Arnaud Miranda, ScPo Paris)

Discussant : Idris Fassassi, Paris Panthéon-Assas University

Friday 11 September

Venue : Centre de droit européen, 28 rue Saint-Guillaume, salle Denis Tallon (groundfloor)

10.00 Value-based Infringement Procedures

Jonathan Tomkin, Legal Service of the European Commission

12.00 Closing Keynote

"Siamo tutti antifascisti" : qu'est-ce qu'être fasciste ? Une lecture italienne de Gramsci à Scurati

Francesco Martucci, Paris Panthéon-Assas University