

Judges
under
STRESS



LITHUANIAN
COURTS
National Courts
Administration

NORWEGIAN COURTS
ADMINISTRATION

UNIVERSITY
OF OSLO

REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Ministry of Justice and
Public Administration

CONSILIUL SUPERIOR
AL MAGISTRATURII

NATIONAL
INSTITUTE
OF JUSTICE

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway grants

Norway
grants

CONFERENCE
AGENDA

Vilnius, Lithuania, April 18 - 19, 2024
Conference venue: Hilton Garden Inn Hotel
(44 Gediminas Ave, Vilnius)

Wednesday, April 17, 2024		Arrival of participants	
18:00-21:00		Welcome Cocktail Hosted by the Norwegian Embassy in Vilnius <i>Ambassador Ole Terje Horpestad, Royal Norwegian Embassy</i> <i>Welcome by Organizers</i>	
19:00		Screening of the Film <i>Judges Under Pressure (2021, 87 min)</i> http://www.lollipopfilms.pl/en/judges-under-pressure <i>Introduction by Dr. Lukasz Bojarski</i>	
Thursday, April 18, 2024			
8:30-9:00		Registration of participants	
09:00-09:15		Opening Remarks by Organizers <i>Dr. Natalija Kaminskienė, Director, Lithuanian Courts Administration</i> <i>Dr. Lukasz Bojarski</i> <i>President of the Board Cecilie Østensen Berglund, Norwegian Courts Administration</i>	
9:15-10:45		Session I. Between Judicial Independence and Accountability – Current Issues and Challenges Facing the Judiciaries <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>General Framework and Introduction: Prof. Hans Petter Graver, University of Oslo</i><i>Country Presentations:</i> <i>Bulgaria – Judge Atanas St. Atanasov, Sofia City Court, Criminal Department</i> <i>Croatia – Judge Andrija Krivak, Municipal Civil Court of Zagreb</i> <i>Lithuania – Judge Nerijus Meilutis, Chairman of the Court of Appeal of Lithuania</i> <i>Romania – Judge Dr. Dragos Calin, Bucharest Court of Appeal</i><i>Discussion</i>	
10:45-11:15		Break	
11:15-12:45		Session II. Recent Developments in European Courts’ Jurisprudence Regarding Judicial Independence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Jurisprudence of the Court of Justice of the European Union: Prof. Marek Safjan, former Polish Judge of the CJEU (2009-2024)</i><i>Jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights: Prof. Egidijus Kūris, former Lithuanian Judge of the ECHR (2013-2024)</i><i>Successes, Failures, Challenges of the European Jurisprudence: an Academic’s Perspective – Prof. Maciej Taborowski, The Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences</i><i>Discussion</i>	
12:45-13:30		Lunch Break	
13:30-15:15		Session III. A. Judicial Resistance against Authoritarian Measures Aiming to Limit Judicial Independence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Is There a Right/Duty to Resist? Defining Judicial Resistance: Dr. Lukasz Bojarski</i><i>Judges’ comments: Judge Dr. Maciej Ferek, Regional Court in Krakow, Poland, Judge Dr. Dragos Calin, Bucharest Court of Appeal, Romania</i><i>Discussion</i> B. Media Pressures and Attacks on Individual Judges – panel <i>Moderator: Iwar Arnstad, Head of International Secretariat, Norwegian Courts Administration</i> <i>Panelists: Prof. Ragna Aarli, University of Bergen, Norway; Dainius Radzevičius, Chairman of Lithuanian Journalists Union; Judge Vladislava Tsarigradski, Pleven District Court, Bulgaria; Judge Dorota Zabłudowska, District Court Gdańsk-Południe in Gdańsk, Poland; Artashes Melikyan, Secretary of the Consultative Council of European Judges</i>	
15:15-15:45		Break	
15:45-17:15		Session IV. Workshops and Discussion <i>Group one: A. Judicial Resistance: Conditions and Limits</i> <i>Group two: B. Media Pressures on Individual Judges: Possible Reactions/Defenses</i> <i>Group three: A or B</i> <i>Facilitators: Iwar Arnstad, Dr. Lukasz Bojarski, Cristi Danilet, Maciej Ferek, Dainius Radzevičius, Dorota Zabłudowska</i>	
17:15-19:00		Networking <i>Buffet dinner</i> <i>Book Launch: Valiant Judges, Iniquitous Law: Thirteen Stories of Heroes of the Law by Prof. H.P.Graver, Routledge ‘2024; short introduction by Author followed by comments from Readers</i>	
Friday, April 19, 2024			
8:30-9:45		Session V. Corruption as a Threat to Judicial Independence – Current Challenges and Solutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Prof. Ján Mazúr, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia</i><i>Dr. Cristi Danilet, Former Judge (until 2024), Romania</i><i>Dr. Justinas Bagdžius, Integrity Officer of the Judiciary, Lithuanian Courts Administration</i><i>Discussion</i>	
9:45-10:00		Break	
10:00-11:30		Session VI. The Role of the Legal Complex and Civil Society in Judicial Independence <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>The Potential of Legal Complex: Prof. H.P. Graver, Dr. L. Bojarski</i><i>Panel Discussion: Insights and Conclusions from Plenary Sessions and Workshops: the panel will feature a selection of speakers and participants, focusing on key takeaways from the event. Special emphasis will be placed on the theme of rebuilding the Rule of Law, with notable insights from Zuzanna Rudzińska-Bluszcz, The Deputy Minister of Justice, Poland</i><i>Outcomes of the conference</i>	
11:30-12:00		Lunch Break	
12:00-14:00		Session VII. Results and Outcomes of the Project “Increasing the Quality, Services and Infrastructure in Lithuanian Courts” by Lithuanian Courts Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Judicial Cooperation: Norwegian View. Iwar Arnstad, Head of the International Secretariat, Norwegian Courts Administration</i><i>Presentation of the Project Results. Petras Sakalauskas, Project Manager, Lithuanian Courts Administration</i><i>Judicial Leadership: Catalyst for Streamlining Court Proceedings and Fostering Collaboration. Prof. Salvija Mulevičienė, Mykolas Romeris University, Head of the Justice Laboratory</i><i>Electronic Communication and Administration of Judges Career Information in TERIS. Vaida Petravičienė, Deputy Director, Lithuanian Courts Administration</i>	
14:00-15:00		Closing remarks <i>Dr. Natalija Kaminskienė, Director, Lithuanian Courts Administration</i> Farewell	