



# *Activity Report*

2024

**JUDICIAL STUDIES INSTITUTE**

Masaryk University  
Brno



## 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



## OUR PROJECTS & RESEARCH INITIATIVES

### **INFINITY: Informal Judicial Institutions: Invisible Determinants of Democratic Decay**

The [INFINITY project](#) has reached its midpoint, marked by the publication of a [Special Issue of the German Law Journal](#), co-edited by **David Kosař** and **Katarína Šípulová**. This comprehensive volume on informal judicial institutions and practices in Europe, spanning over 360 pages, concludes the first work package and sheds light on the often-overlooked role of informality in judicial governance and decision-making. It features 19 articles, including an introduction, 13 case studies and cross-cutting contributions.

The team also cooperated with other international teams investigating the role of informality in the judiciary and patterns of democratic decay. This cooperation has led to two articles in the Law and Policy Special Issue named "[Global Perspectives on Judicial Politics and Democratic Backsliding](#)" (eds. Michael Dichio and Igor Logvinenko) and two chapters in the collection on "[Informality and Courts: Comparative Perspectives](#)" (eds. Björn Dressel, Raul Sanchez-Urribarri, and Alexander Stroh-Steckelberg).

### **TRIAL 2: Trust, Independence, Impartiality and Accountability of Legal professionals under the EU Charter**

The [TRIAL 2 project](#), funded by the European Commission, aims to strengthen the capacity of judges, lawyers and prosecutors to address fundamental rights and rule of law issues. This is achieved through 12 online, hybrid and in-person training events fostering a transnational knowledge exchange and collaboration among justice professionals. The project improves their ability to navigate challenges related to judicial independence, impartiality and accountability.

To date, the project has included two visits to Barcelona and Budapest by **Ondřej Kadlec** and **Šimon Chvojka** from JUSTIN, contributing to knowledge exchange on judicial governance and the European rule of law. Ondřej participated in the [Training on Mutual Trust and Judicial](#)

[Independence in the European Arrest Warrant \(EAW\)](#) framework organised by the University of Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona in March. Also, in November, he joined online as one of the speakers for the [Training on Judicial Dialogue and Freedom of Expression of Lawyers](#), organised online by the National Union of Bars of Romania (UNBR). Šimon, in turn, attended the [Training on Fundamental Rights and the Use of the Preliminary Reference Procedure](#), organised in hybrid mode (in person and online) by Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE) in Budapest in October 2024.

As part of TRIIAL, JUSTIN is co-organising a [transnational hybrid workshop](#) on 27–28 February 2025, focused on judicial governance and the rule of law. The workshop will address modern challenges in judicial administration, including court digitalisation, communication strategies and the extrajudicial activities of judges. [Renowned experts](#) such as **Marta Cartabia**, **Kateřina Šimáčková**, **Kees Sterk**, **Zdeněk Kühn**, **Jaroslav Gwizdak**, **Petra Škvařilová-Pelzl**, **Dragoș Călin**, **David Kosař** and many others will lead lectures, case study discussions and roundtables, offering participants a collaborative platform on which to evaluate these issues in the light of European standards and case law.

## CoRe: Beyond Security: Role of Conflict in Resilience-Building

[The CoRe project](#) is defined as problem-oriented research on the relationship between resilience and conflict in Czech society, especially in relation to the unprecedented war situation in Ukraine and the contemporary climate, energy and migration crises. Three JUSTIN members are participating in this research endeavour. Within the project, **David Kosař** is conducting research on the project's work package, focusing on political polarisation and legitimacy crisis. David has researched how supreme courts communicate with various segments of society, and his article on the embedding strategies of European apex courts will soon appear in the German Law Journal. **Kateřina Ochoďková**, working under the same package, has analysed recent changes in the assimilated mode of representation of the external electorate in the electoral system for the Czech Chamber of Deputies. **Lukáš Hamřik** concentrates under the work package on the role of conflict in the international context. Lukáš explores the role of Article 2 TEU in European Parliamentary debates on rule of law backsliding in the EU and political parties' responsiveness to those developments.

## SELECTED RESEARCH VISIT & SEMINARS

### Daniel Bogéa's Research Visit to JUSTIN

In May and June 2024, JUSTIN had the pleasure of hosting **Daniel Bogéa**, a visiting researcher and dual PhD candidate in Comparative Constitutional Law at UNSW Sydney and in Political Science at the Universidade de São Paulo. During his



stay in Brno, Daniel presented his paper, *Off-Bench Judicial Behavior: A Conceptual Framework for Assessing the Role of Judges Beyond Courts*, during our JUSTIN research seminar. His presentation sparked lively discussion among JUSTIN members and guests from the Department of Constitutional Law and Political Science.

### Seminar with Mathias Moschel: Constitutional Judges

The JUSTIN team hosted **Mathias Moschel** from the Central European University (CEU), who introduced his upcoming OUP book, *Ex-Ministers as Constitutional Judges*. His presentation sparked a lively discussion, showcasing his expertise in comparative constitutional law, international human rights and non-discrimination law, with a focus on critical race theory and gender perspectives.

### A Roundtable with Professor Eirik Holmøyvik

We were delighted to host Professor **Eirik Holmøyvik** from the University of Bergen for an insightful discussion on the “Venice Commission.” As a member of this esteemed advisory body on constitutional law since 2016, Professor Holmøyvik has served as a rapporteur on opinions concerning constitutional reforms, electoral laws, courts and democratic institutions across member states. His invaluable insider knowledge provided a unique perspective, making the roundtable an engaging and enriching experience for all participants.





### Exploring Connections: Network Analysis, Judicial Systems, and Beyond

A [workshop](#) on the applications of network analysis provided valuable insights into our research on judges and judicial networks. Guided by our colleagues **Petr Ocelík** and **Lukáš Lehotský** from the [Department of International Relations and European Studies](#), Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University, the discussion highlighted how network analysis uncovers patterns of collaboration and influence within judicial systems and beyond. Their insights enriched our ongoing field-work and offered fresh perspectives on how relationships and networks could shape judicial decision-making processes.

### Compliance Vulnerabilities with Veronika Fikfak

We had the privilege of [hosting](#) **Veronika Fikfak**, Associate Professor of International Law at University College London (UCL), at JUSTIN for a thought-provoking research seminar. Veronika, the principal investigator of the ERC-funded project, [Human Rights Nudge](#), and a recent recipient of an ERC Consolidator Grant, presented her paper *Compliance Vulnerabilities*. Her presentation sparked lively discussions on human rights, international norms and compliance, enriching the dialogue among our team, visitors and student assistants.

### Seminar with Mathieu Leloup & Dimitrios Spieker: Rethinking Primacy's Effects

The JUSTIN team virtually hosted **Mathieu Leloup** and **Dimitrios Spieker**, who presented their paper [\*Rethinking Primacy's Effects: On Creating, Avoiding and Filling Legal Vacuums in the National Legal System\*](#). Their presentation explored the often-overlooked consequences of the principle of primacy in national legal orders, focusing on the steps domestic judges must take when national law conflicts with EU law. The discussion addressed the challenges of disapplying conflicting provisions, the risk of legal vacuums and the increasing need for judicial creativity in balancing primacy with domestic constitutional principles.

### Seminar with Mila Versteeg & Adam Chilton: Unamendability & Democracy

**Mila Versteeg** and her co-author **Adam Chilton** joined us in a hybrid format to present their paper *Do Constitutional Unamendability Rules Protect Democracy?* Their research examines whether constitutional eternity clauses and court-created unamendability doctrines safeguard democracy effectively. The presentation fostered a stimulating discussion on the implications of unamendability rules for constitutional stability and democratic resilience.

### Seminar with Mária Havelková & Samuel Spáč: Gender & Pro Bono

As part of our seminar series, our colleague **Samuel Spáč**, together with his co-author, **Mária Havelková**, [presented](#) their paper *Freedom to Volunteer: Differences between Men and Women Lawyers in Providing Pro Bono Legal Services*. Based on data from over 2,000 lawyers in California and Florida, their study shows that while women express stronger support for volunteering, they engage less in *pro bono* work due to greater family and workload constraints. The discussion highlighted structural barriers limiting women's autonomy in *pro bono* decision-making and the broader implications for access to justice.

### Seminar with Lucas Lixinski & Ayla Alves: Enforcing Human Rights Judgments

**Lucas Lixinski** and **Ayla Alves** joined us for an online seminar to present their paper *Domestic Implementation and Enforcement of Inter-American Court of Human Rights Judgments: A Call for Technique*. Their research shifts the focus from the broader impact of the Court's rulings to the technical challenges of enforcement in domestic jurisdictions. By mapping enforcement mechanisms across different countries, they highlight how procedural hurdles shape the real-

world effectiveness of human rights law. The discussion underscored the need for strategic, technical approaches to ensure the judgments translate into tangible legal and social change.

### Online Seminar with Paulina Milewska: SLAPPs and Judicial Independence

**Paulina Milewska**, from the European University Institute, joined us for an online seminar to workshop her draft article on the application of SLAPPs (Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation) to cases against judges. The seminar explored how SLAPPs, used to silence judges, expose vulnerabilities in legal systems.

## HIGHLIGHTED TEAM PARTICIPATION AT CONFERENCES

The International Society of Public Law (ICON•S) held its annual conference, entitled “[\*The Future of Public Law: Resilience, Sustainability, and Artificial Intelligence\*](#),” in Madrid, Spain, from 8-10 July. The event drew over 2,000 participants, with [our institute well represented by several members](#). JUSTIN members chaired and organised several panels on topics such as judicial resistance; judicial transparency; chief justices and democratic decline; separation of powers; actors of legal reasoning at the European Court of Justice; and so forth. The JUSTIN team also contributed many valuable presentations on informalities at courts (**Katarína Šipulová**, **Samuel Spáč**, **David Kosař**), judicial transparency (**Michal Kovalčík**), oral hearings (**Patrick Leisure**), structural rights (**Mathieu Leloup**) and the role of grand chambers (**Ondřej Kadlec**). Besides formal discussions, the conference revealed plenty of new insights and contacts, thanks to the rich informal programme. The icing on the cake of the conference was the prestigious [ICON-S Best Article Prize 2024](#) for the article on comparative court-packing written by our **David Kosař** and **Katarína Šipulová**.

In 2024, University College Dublin hosted the ECPR 2024 General Conference. As usual, JUSTIN [was very well represented](#) at the main event. The JUSTIN team, composed of **Katarína Šipulová**, **David Kosař**, **Lukáš Hamřík**, **Etienne Hanelt**, **Ondřej Kadlec** and **Hubert Smekal**, contributed to various ongoing debates within the ECPR Section on Law and Courts (co-chaired by Etienne). These include judicial governance and the perception of judicial councils’ role in the separation of powers; the importance and role of grand chambers at the two European



supranational courts (ECJ and ECtHR); the European Commission’s approach to tackling democratic backsliding in the EU member states; and judicial leadership at the ECJ.



In September, **Attila Vincze** attended the annual international [conference of the New Europe College of Bucharest](#), organised jointly with the Romanian Association of Constitutional Law (ARDC). The workshop addressed the connection between central models of the rule of law and specific preconditions and contexts. In the EU, the topic is particularly apposite 20 years after the so-called ‘Big Bang Enlargement.’ Attila contributed by reflecting on the pitfalls and inefficiencies of the conditionality mechanism of the rule of law.





**David Kosař** and **Patrick Casey Leisure** [represented the JUSTIN](#) team at the [International Political Science Association](#)'s Research Committee Interim Meeting on Comparative Judicial Studies, held at the University of Texas in Austin. David and Patrick both presented papers, David chaired a panel on constitutionalism, and both took part in fascinating debates on various issues of comparative judicial studies with a diverse group of conference participants from around the globe. Patrick received a U.S. National Science Foundation grant to attend the conference.



## GOVERNMENT & POLICY CONSULTATION

**Marína Urbániková** served as an expert in the [Working Group](#) of the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic on Public Service Media, which focused on amending the laws governing Czech Television and Czech Radio.

**David Kosař** is a member of the [Consultative Panel](#) of the Czech President for the Nomination of Judges to the Constitutional Court. He has actively participated in several panel meetings, contributing his expertise to the selection process. He is also a member of [The College of Experts](#) on the Enforcement of ECHR Judgments and for the Implementation of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights. This advisory body supports the Government Commissioner for the Representation of the Czech Republic in front of the ECHR.

## TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS

### MUNI Scientist award

**Katarína Šipulová** and **David Kosař** were honoured with the prestigious [MUNI Scientist Award](#) for their outstanding academic achievement. They were recognised for their editorship of the Special Issue of the German Law Journal entitled [Informal Judicial Institutions—Invisible Determinants of Democratic Decay](#). This accolade highlights their significant contribution to legal scholarship and underscores Masaryk University's commitment to promoting excellence in research.



### ICON-S Best Article Prize 2024

**David Kosař** and **Katarína Šipulová** received the notable [ICON-S Best Article Prize 2024](#) for their groundbreaking work, [Comparative Court-Packing](#), published in the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*. The article provides a novel comparative perspective on court-packing, broadening its definition to encompass not only court expansion but also emptying and swapping strategies. This prestigious award highlights their exceptional contribution to advancing the field of constitutional law.

## Prestigious AEJMC Faculty Research Award 2024

**Mauro Goyanes, Marína Urbániková** and **Borja Jordá** received the distinguished AEJMC Third Place [Top Faculty Research Paper](#) Award at the Newspaper and Online News Division of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Their paper, *Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Journalism: How Trust in Media and Attitudes towards Journalists are Associated to Acceptance, Trust, Willingness to Pay, and Replacement of Human Journalists with AI*, was presented at the AEJMC conference in Philadelphia, USA.

## Re:constitution Fellowship Program

In 2024, we were proud to witness two members of JUSTIN, **Etienne Hanelt** and **Katarína Šipulová**, being selected as [re:constitution Fellows for the 2024/25](#) academic year. The re:constitution program awards 15 fellowships annually to early-career academics and practitioners, supporting innovative projects that address critical issues related to the rule of law and democracy.

As part of this program, fellows undertake a pan-European mobility lasting from three to six months at leading research institutions or legal practice sites across the EU. The program facilitates collaboration with partners and host institutions, fostering cross-border exchange and innovation.

[Etienne's fellowship](#) will focus on the academic legitimization of authoritarian politics in Hungary. Not only has Orbán expelled the Central European University from Budapest and tightened political control over state universities, but his regime has heavily promoted its own academic institutions and think-tanks. Its role, however, remains an under-researched topic. Academic research in these institutions is neither free nor open-ended, but is motivated and directed to support the government's agenda by normalising and legitimating its positions. Yet we know very little about these institutions, who they are, how they work, or with what methods they co-opt academics.

[Katarína will examine](#) how judges in different judicial cultures understand concepts related to democracy (such as the separation of powers, limits to off-bench activities, travelling between branches, constraints on judicial independence, etc.). She will spend her mobility period at [the Centre for European Legal Studies, Faculty of Law, University of Cambridge](#).

## Max Gressly and Florian Fleck International Visiting Scholarship

**Marína Urbániková** was awarded the [Max Gressly and Florian Fleck International Visiting Scholarship](#) and spent two months at the Department of Communication and Media Research (DCM) at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. During her time in Fribourg, she focused on media policy and regulation and worked on her forthcoming book about public service media.

## Regional Recognition

**David Kosař.** David was honoured with the prestigious [South Moravian Region Prize](#) for his exceptional contributions to constitutional scholarship.

## Recognition in the Czech-Slovak Legal Competition

Our student assistant, **Adéla Dočkalová**, came first in the [Czech-Slovak Legal Competition](#) in 2024. Adéla was recognised in the Legal Theory, Constitutional Law, and Human Rights category for her [work on electronic school reports](#) and their connection to the historical development of traditional schoolbooks. She explored how foster care in the Czech Republic often involves grandparents and why they may be more affected by the digital divide. Her research highlighted how some schools limited communication with caregivers by requiring the use of electronic platforms and offered examples of good practice from schools that provided offline alternatives.

## JUSTIN WORKING PAPERS, CONFERENCES & PUBLICATIONS

In 2024, we published four [JUSTIN Working Papers](#), sharing the latest research with a global audience. If you have ideas or work to contribute, feel free to send your manuscript to [justin@law.muni.cz](mailto:justin@law.muni.cz).



**Mathieu Leloup** [examined](#) how supranational courts reshaped the separation of powers, constraining states' autonomy and imposing a new blueprint for checks and balances in a multilevel legal landscape.

**David Kosař and Katarína Šipulová** delved into the informal networks of Court Presidents in a [chapter](#) which appeared in the *Handbook on Judging and the Judiciary*. They argue that Court Presidents undertake dual tasks—enhancing efficiency and resisting political interference, yet potentially eroding judicial independence.



**Lukáš Hamřík** investigated the personalisation of post-Lisbon EU politics within the European Council and the Council of the European Union. His [analysis](#) reveals that while some politicians have gained more individual power, the collective prerogatives of member states remain intact.

**David Kosař** and **Katarína Šipulová** also [conceptualised](#) the roles of Court Presidents, explaining their complex interactions with various judicial actors, such as politicians and judges. They highlight the dual influence of Court Presidents, who can either act as bulwarks against democratic decay or use their powers to erode judicial independence.

## 2024 in Focus

### Publications by JUSTIN members

- Antoš, Marek, Miloš Brunclík, Lukáš Hájek, Miluše Kindlová, Michal Kubát and Attila Vincze. "Constitutional Conventions in Central Europe: Insights from Experts." *Problems of Post-Communism*, 1-9 July, (2024).
- Hamřík, Lukáš. "Small Member States in the European Commission of the 21st Century." In *Small States in EU Policy-Making: Strategies, Challenges, Opportunities*, edited by Anna-Lena Högenauer and Matúš Mišík, 19–36. London: Routledge (2024).
- Hanelt, Etienne. "Getting Article 7 done: coalition-building against Hungary in the European Parliament." *Journal of European Integration*, 1–22 (2024).
- Hanelt, Etienne, and Attila Vincze. "Managing courts in competitive authoritarian regimes." *Zeitschrift für Vergleichende Politikwissenschaft* (2025).
- Chvojka, Šimon. "Najvyšší Správny Súd jako 'New Kid on the Block': Komparatívni Pohľad s Českým Nejvyšším Správním Soudem," *Právny Obzor* 107, no. 2 (2024).
- Chvojka, Šimon. "Publikací to nekončí: Analýza přístupnosti judikatury Nejvyššího správního soudu," *Právník* 163, no. 4 (2024).
- Kosař, David. "Embedding Strategies of the European Apex Courts: Why Court Communication with All Segments of Society Matters." *European Constitutional Law Review* (2024).
- Kosař, David, Katarína Šipulová and Ondřej Kadlec. "The Case for Judicial Councils as Fourth-Branch Institutions." *European Constitutional Law Review* 20, no. 1 (2024).
- Kovalčík, Michal. "Constitutional Referrals by Ordinary Courts: A Platform for Judicial Dialogue and Another Toolkit for Judicial Resistance." *European Constitutional Law Review* 20, no. 1 (2024).
- Kovalčík, Michal. "Mezisoudní Dialog Skrze Konkrétní Kontrolu Norem: Jak Spolu Obecné Soudy a Ústavní Soud Komunikují a Proč Čl. 95 Odst. 2 Ústavy Slouží Jako Zbraň Moci Soudní?" *Časopis pro Právní Vědu a Praxi* 2023, no. 4 (2024).

- Leloup, Mathieu. "The Question of Non-Independent Apex Courts as Effective Remedies to Be Exhausted." *European Convention on Human Rights Law Review* 5, no. 3 (2024).
- Leloup, Mathieu, and Luke Dimitrios Spieker. "Rethinking Primacy's Effects: On Creating, Avoiding and Filling Legal Vacuums in the National Legal System." *Common Market Law Review* 61, no. 4 (2024).
- Leisure, Patrick Casey, and David Kosař. "Court-Hoarding: Another Method of Gaming Judicial Turnover." *Law & Policy* 46, no. 4 (2024).
- Ochodková, Kateřina. "Korespondenční Hlasování: Co a Jak Řeší Ústavní Soudy?" *Právník* 163, no. 3 (2024).
- Šipulová, Katarína. "The Light and the Dark Side of Judicial Resistance." *Law & Policy* (2024).
- Šipulová, Katarína, and David Kosař. "Purging the Judiciary After a Transition: Between a Rock and a Hard Place." *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law* (2024).
- Urbániková, Marína. "The Anatomy of Internal Interference in Public Service Media: How Do Journalists Interpret Whether Editorial Interference Constitutes Unacceptable Encroachment on Their Autonomy?" *Journalism* (2024).
- Urbániková, Marína, and Tereza Čaladi. "The Many Shades of Sexism: Female Journalists in Leadership Positions Reflect on Barriers to Career Advancement in Journalism." *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly* (2024).
- Vincze, Attila. "Form Follows Function: Reopening of Judicial Proceedings and EU Law in Profi Credit Polska." *Common Market Law Review* 61, no. 6 (2024).
- Vincze, Attila. "Nur kosmetische Änderungen in Ungarn?" *Deutsche Richterzeitung* 96, no. 2 (2024).
- Vincze, Attila. "Zu den Grundsätzen der Äquivalenz und der unionsrechtskonformen Auslegung nationalen Rechts: Anmerkung zu EuGH 9.4.2024 – C-582/21." *Europäische Zeitschrift für Wirtschaftsrecht* 35, no. 13 (2024).
- Vincze, Attila, Márton Varju and Ernő Várnay. "Húsz Év Után: Alkalmazkodás és Konfliktusok a Magyar Jogrendszer Európaizációs Átalakulásában." *Állam- és Jogtudomány* 65, no. 2 (2024).

## Conferences, Seminars, and Workshops Attended by JUSTIN members

- **26.11.2024 University of Włocławek, Conference on Local Governance in Crisis (virtual, invited speaker)**

Patrick Leisure, “Judicial Overstay as Cause or Cure of Crises on the Bench?”

- **7.11.2024 Justice Administration Research Association (JAR-A), e-seminar (virtual)**

David Kosař and Katarína Šipulová, “Informal Judicial Institutions: Invisible Determinants of Democratic Decay”

- **4.11.2024 Faculty of Law, Sigmund Freud University, Vienna, Austria**

David Kosař and Attila Vincze, “Conceptualization of Constitutional Conventions in Central Europe: United in Diversity?”

- **24.-26.10.2024 conference IPSA Research Committee 09 Comparative Judicial Studies Interim Meeting, University of Texas, Austin, USA**

David Kosař (co-authored with Patrick Leisure), “Judicial Overstay”

David Kosař - chair of a panel on “Courts, Policy & Contention Issues”

Patrick Leisure, “Analysing Judicial Behaviour During Public Hearings at the ECtHR”

- **24.10.2024 Texas A&M Law School, Fort Worth, USA**

David Kosař, “Court Packing”

- **26.-27.9.2024 conference on “Rule of Law Ideal Models: Centrality under Stress or ‘Peripheralization of the World’?,” New Europe College, CEREFREA, Bucharest, Romania**

Attila Vincze, “Beyond Ticking Boxes – the particularities of a constitutional system and the RoL conditionality”

- **24.-27.9.2024 DVPW Kongress “Politik in der Polykrise,” [“Politics in times of Polycrisis”], Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany**

Etienne Hanelt, “The Supranational Tug of War: EU Entscheidungsprozesse in der Rechtsstaatskrise” [EU decision-making in the rule of law crisis]

- **1.-4.9. 2024 UACES Conference, University of Trento, Italy**

Lukáš Hamřík,

- (1) “In search for an ideal Commission’s president? The European Parliament’s expectations from the persons holding the European Commission Presidency”
- (2) “Do the European Union’s fundamental values unite us? The evidence from the European Parliament”

- **29.-30.8. 2024 Workshop Autoritär Herausgefordert [Autocratically Challenged], Internationale Bildungsstätte, Gedenkstätte Buchenwald, Germany**

Attila Vincze, “Der illiberale Umbau der ungarischen Justiz: Instrumentalisierung, Kollaboration und Widerstand”

- **12.-15.8. 2024 ECPR General Conference, University College Dublin, Ireland**

Ondřej Kadlec, “Navigating the Grand Chamber Trilemma: The Role of the Large Formation at the European Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights” (virtual presence)

Katarína Šipulová, “How actors understand the role of judicial councils in separation of powers?”

David Kosař, “The experience with judicial governance: institutional setups and major problems”

Katarína Šipulová, Lukáš Hamřík, Etienne Hanelt and Hubert Smekal, “How much of an autocrat do you need to be for the EU to notice?”

Lukáš Hamřík, “Leadership styles of the European Court of Justice’s Chief Justices”

- **8.-10.7. 2024 conference ICON-S, IE University Law School, Madrid, Spain**

Katarína Šipulová, convener of an interest group, “Informality, courts, and politics” (with Joern Dressel)

David Kosař, chair of panel on “Chief Justices and Democratic Decline: Crisis Leadership or Leadership in Crisis?”

-“The Foundations of the Separation of Powers”

David Kosař and Mathieu Leloup, “Separation of Powers”

Ondřej Kadlec, “Navigating the Grand Chamber Trilemma: The Role of Extended Formations in the Decision-Making of the European Court of Justice”

- “Checks and Balances in challenging environments”

Michal Kovalčík, “Dimensions, Virtues, and Perils of Judicial Transparency”

Patrick Leisure, “Opening the Black Box: The Role of Oral Hearings at the European Court of Human Rights”

Samuel Spáč, “The role of informality in the selection of judges”

Katarína Šipulová, “Opening the Black Box: The Role of Oral Hearings at the European Court of Human Rights”

David Kosař, “Judicial Underreach: Pros and Cons”

(with Patrick Leisure), “The Many Layers of Judicial Overstay”

Mathieu Leloup, “Structural Rights: individual rights as a foundation of government architecture”

- **7.-12. 7. 2024 IVR2024 Conference on "The Rule of Law, Justice and the Future of Democracy", Soongsil University, Seoul, Republic of Korea**

Etienne Hanelt (co-authored with Katarína Šipulová, Lukáš Hamřík, Hubert Smekal), paper “How much of an autocrat do you need to be for the EU to notice?”

- **19. – 21. 6. 2024 conference ECPR Standing Group on the European Union, Universidade NOVA, Lisbon, Portugal**

Katarína Šipulová and Lukáš Hamřík, chairing panel on “Governance by Informality in the European Union”

Lukáš Hamřík, “Judicial Leadership at the Court of Justice of the European Union”

Etienne Hanelt, “The political process of the EP to use Art 7”

Katarína Šipulová and Lukáš Hamřík (co-authored with Etienne Hanelt and Hubert Smekal), “How much of an autocrat do you need to be for the EU to notice?”

Lukáš Hamřík, participation in a workshop on “Representation and Candidacy in the 2024 European Elections” with a paper on “In search of an ideal Commission President?”

- **17.-21.6.2024 iCourts / MOBILE PhD Summer School, University of Copenhagen, Denmark**

Michal Kovalčík, PhD thesis outline, “Judicial Transparency: How Transparent Should Courts be in Different Political and Socio-legal Contexts?”

- **15. - 16. 4. 2024 roundtable on 'Monitoring the Independence of the Judiciary,' CEELI Institute, Prague, Czech Republic**

Samuel Spáč, “Judiciary independence in Central and Eastern Europe”

- **11. - 13. 4. 2024 conference on “Unwritten Constitutionalism and Public Law in Central and Eastern Europe,” ICON's CEE section, Sibiu, Romania**

David Kosař chaired a panel on “Concepts” and gave the closing speech

- **11. 4. 2024 conference "Politologické sympozium 2024: Evropské volby v kontextu 20 let členství Česka v EU," ["Political Science Symposium 2024: European Elections**



**in the Context of 20 Years of Czech EU Membership”], IIPS - International Institute of Political Science, Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic**

Lukáš Hamřík, “Personalizace politiky a volby do Evropského parlamentu: Má procedura Spitzenkandidát budoucnost?” [“Personalisation of politics and the European elections: does the Spitzenkandidat procedure have a future?”]

- **25. - 27. 3. 2024 workshop on “Sounding the Alarm: Comparing Early Signs of Democratic Recession in Established and Backsliding Democracies,” ECPR Joint Sessions of Workshops, Lüneburg, Germany**

David Kosař and Katarína Šipulová, “Ring the bell. Judiciaries as anti-autocratisation radar systems”

- **7. 3. 2024 Seminar at iCourts, University of Copenhagen, Denmark**

David Kosař, “Judicial Overstay: Meddling with the Tail End of a Judicial Career”

- **6.3.2024 Human Rights and Public Law Centre, PGR Workshop, Durham University, UK**

Ondřej Kadlec, “Navigating the Grand Chamber Trilemma: The Role of Extended Panels in Multipanel Apex Courts”

- **23.-24. 2. 2024 workshop on “Populist Constitutionalism and Populist Communication,” Leibniz University Hannover, Germany**

Katarína Šipulová, “The light and dark sides of judicial resistance”

Katarína Šipulová, took part in the roundtable on “Protecting courts against populists”

- **8.-9. 2. 2024 Conference on “Constitutional Challenges - Judging under Pressure,” Hertie School & Humboldt University Berlin, Germany**

David Kosař, took part in the roundtable on “Democratic Backsliding”

- **11.-13.1.2024 “2nd Graduate Conference on Constitutional Change,” The University of Texas at Austin, USA**

Michal Kovalčík, “Judicial Transparency -- How Transparent Should Courts Be in a Different Political and Social Context?”



# JUDICIAL STUDIES INSTITUTE

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