# Fulbright International Seminar

**Strategies for Strengthening of Democracy and Rule of Law: National and International Perspectives**

Sofia, Oct. 20-23, 2022

*Launchee Space, TZUM, 2 Knyaginya Maria Luiza Blvd., Sofia, 1000*

*Registration:* [*https://www.fulbright.bg/en/fis-2022/*](https://www.fulbright.bg/en/fis-2022/)

October 20 (Thursday)

4:00 - 4:10 Official Opening Addresses:

Atanas Pekanov, Deputy Prime Minister of Bulgaria

Peter Vanderwall, US Embassy in Sofia

Topic: Justice, Civic Awareness and Rule of Law in Young Democracies

4:10 - 5:20 Keynote Lecture

Dr. Balint Magyar, Senior Researcher, CEU Democracy Institute

***Re-Democratization and Anti-Patronal Transformation: Chances and Possibilities***

(Q&A)

5:20 - 5:35 Break

5:35 - 7:05 Panel Discussion: Tensions in the Functioning of Post-Communist Justice Systems (constitutional and civic dimensions)

**Judge Kalin Kalpakchiev,** Appellate Court - Sofia, former Supreme Judicial Council Member

*Democratization of the Judicial System: The Case of Bulgaria*

**Assoc. Prof. Deyana Marcheva**, New Bulgarian University

*The Court and Prosecutor Office in an Integrated System of Power in the Democratic Constitution of 1991: Legacies and Outcomes.*

**Lyubomir Avdzhiyski,** Graduate Researcher in National Security, Pennsylvania State University

*Censorship and Disinformation. An International Law Perspective*

(Q&A)

**7:05 – 9:00 *Welcome Reception – Bar Story***

October 21 (Friday)

Topic: Defining National Interest on Supranational and International Level

4:00 - 5:20 Panel Discussion: Capacity of Democratic Institutions for Defining and Protecting Long-Term National Interest

**Radan Kanev,** Member of European Parliament

**Dr. Denitsa Hinkova,** Department of Public Administration, Sofia University

*Adapting Capacity to Protect Democracy: Equilibrium in Defending National Interests within EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid*

**Prof. Martin Belov,** Department of Constitutional Law Studies, Sofia University

*Constitutional Transitions between Westphalian, Post-Westphalian and Neo-Westphalian Constitutionalism*

(Q&A)

5:20 -5:40 Break

5:40 - 7:00 Panel Discussion: Defending the National interest: between the State of Emergency and the Global Values of Democracy

**Assoc. Prof. Kacper Gradon,** Warsaw University of Technology and University College London Research Fellow

**Aleksader Kashumov,** Attorney at Law (Human Rights)

(Q&A)

**7:00 - 8:00 Workshop: The (Inter)National Security Landscape – Navigating in the 21st Century**

**Assoc. Prof. Kacper Gradon,** Warsaw University of TechnologyandUniversity College London Research Fellow

October 22 (Saturday)

Topic: The Role of High Courts and Constitutional Courts in Shaping Public Opinion

4:00 - 5:20 Keynote Speakers:

**Judge Jane Milazzo,** United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana

**Judge Alexander Arabadjiev,** Court of Justice of the European Union

*(Q&A)*

5:20 -5:30 Break

5:30 – 7:00 Panel Discussion: Conservative Versus Progressive Tendencies in High and Constitutional Courts’ Decisions

**Judge Jane Milazzo,** United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana

**Judge Maureen Duffy-Lewis,** The Superior Court of LA

**Judge Sonya Yankulova,** Constitutional Court of Bulgaria

*Public Opinion and Court Decisions - Dependance and Importance for Democracy and the Rule of Law in Bulgaria*

October 23 (Sunday)

Topic: Challenges to Rule-of-Law Based International Order

4:00 - 5:30 Keynote speakers:

**Judge Ekaterina Trendafilova**, International Criminal Court (2006-2015), President of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers

**Prof. Gentian Zyberi,** Norwegian Centre for Human Rights

*Inclusiveness and Exclusiveness of the International Order*

(Q&A)

5:30 -5:45 Break

5:45 - 7:05 Panel Discussion: Enforcement and Implementation of International Law

Judge Yonko Grozev, European Court of Human Rights

Prof. Gentian Zyberi, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights

*Challenges to Monitoring and Enforcement of International Human Rights Law by the UN Treaty Bodies*

**Rumen Cholakov,** Attorney at Law**,** London

*State Immunity Challenges to the Recognition and Enforcement of Investor Treaty Arbitration Awards*

(Q&A)

7:05 - 8:05 Workshop: International Court of Justice Mock Trial Session

*Upholding the Rule of Law Before the ICJ, in light of the Concept of Domaine Réservé*

Evgeny Minchev, Attorney at Law