

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

October 20 (Thursday)

4:00 - 4:10 Official Opening Speeches (US Embassy, BG Council of Ministers)

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 - 5:30 Break

5:30 - 7:00 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

Assoc. Prof. Deyana Marcheva, New Bulgarian University

Lyubomir Avdjiiski, Graduate Researcher in National Security, Pennsylvania State University

(Q&A)

7:00 – 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

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

University

(Q&A)

5:20 -5:30 Break

5:30 - 7:00 **Panel Discussion: Defending the National interest: between the State of Emergency and the Global Values of Democracy**

Prof. Kacper Gradon, University College London

Aleksader Kashumov, Attorney at Law

Prof. Diana Kovacheva, Ombudsman of the Republic of Bulgaria

(Q&A)

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

Prof. Kacper Gradon, University College London

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, Supreme Court of LA

(TBC) Judge Mimi Furnadjieva, Supreme Court of Cassation of Bulgaria

(Q&A)

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
(Q&A)

5:30 -5:40 **Break**

5:40 - 7:00 **Panel Discussion: Enforcement and Implementation of International Law**

Judge Yonko Grozev, European Court of Human Rights

Rumen Cholakov, Attorney at Law, London

Prof. Gentian Zyberi, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights
[Q&A]

7:00 - 8:00 **Workshop: UN Mock Trial Session**

Evgeny Minchev, Attorney at Law