



NOVA
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The Future of Europe – the View On and From Central and Eastern Europe

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Wednesday and Thursday, 17-18 May 2023

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Jože Pučnik Lecture Hall

Mestni trg 23, 1000 Ljubljana

New University (ARRS Project on the Integral Theory of the Future of Europe)

Jean Monnet Chair on Pluralism in the EU

ICON-S CEE Chapter

cordially invite you to a conference dedicated to the Future of Europe, taking the view on and from Central and Eastern Europe. A detailed program of the conference, featuring more than 20 leading European academic experts, is attached below.

The conference will take place at the New University in Ljubljana on 17 and 18 of May in the Jože Pučnik lecture hall.

Please confirm your attendance at the conference no later than Friday, 12 of May at: pr@nova-uni.si.

With best wishes,

prof. dr. Matej Avbelj
Jean Monnet Chair
New University

<https://eufuture.nova-uni.si/en/home/>

<https://jeanmonnet.nova-uni.si/>



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On 9 of May 2022 the Conference on the Future of Europe came to a close with a joint declaration by the presiding EU institutions which have endorsed the conclusions emerging from 'the unprecedented democratic brainstorming' between the EU citizens and their national and supranational institutions. The EU now finds itself in an epilogue phase that should translate the hence gathered ideas in the institutional practices, not excluding the Treaty change.

However, despite the somewhat rosy and ideal picture painted in the aftermath of the conference by the supranational stakeholders about the state of the Union, the latter is not infrequently subject to strong political as well as legal conflicts, revealing disparate visions about the future of the EU, running on the axes both from the North to the South as well as from the West to the East. Furthermore, on top of these internal disputes, externally the Russian aggression on Ukraine has additionally provoked one of the greatest humanitarian, geo-strategic and security crisis on the European soil after the WWII.

The countries of Central and Eastern Europe, which have long been known as the new Member States, have not escaped these EU crises unaffected. To the contrary, if already two decades ago they were somehow paternalistically reproached by their Western counterparts for having missed the opportunity to stay silent, today the CEE Member States are producing not just more than enough noise in the EU, several of them have been seen as destroying the very constitutional fabric of EU integration: its fundamental values.

It is against this backdrop, that the Jean Monnet Chair at the New University, Ljubljana, and the ICON-S CEE Chapter organize a one-day conference within the framework of the project on the Integral Theory of the Future of Europe funded by the Slovenian Research Agency. The conference is going to examine the questions of the future of Europe by taking a perspective both on as well from the Central and Eastern Europe. In particular, four dimensions of the *problematique* will be addressed:

1. How and why is the East different from the West?
2. Constitutional Challenges for the Future of Europe
3. Economic, Social and Humanitarian Challenges for the Future of Europe
4. Political and Geo-strategic Challenges for the Future of Europe



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The conference will take place on Thursday 18 of May between 9:00 and 18:00 at New University, Mestni trg 23, Ljubljana. The participants are expected to arrive on **Wednesday 17 of May** in the afternoon, as in the evening at **18:30 a book launch dedicated to Cormac Mac Amhlaigh's book on New Constitutional Horizons will take place.**

The conference itself will be composed of four panels. It is envisaged as an intense, thought-provoking and open intellectual debate between the audience and the panellists who will each in five minutes introduce their arguments to be followed by seventy minutes of interactive discussion.



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Schedule:

Arrival of the Participants: Wednesday 17 May

18:30 Book Launch

New Constitutional Horizons: Towards a Pluralist Constitutional Theory

by Cormac S. Mac Amhlaigh

Conference: Thursday 18 May ALL DAY

Four panels:

Panel 1: 9.30 – 11.00

Panel 2: 11.30 – 13:00

Lunch 13:00 – 14:30

Panel 3: 14:30 – 16:00

Panel 4: 16:30 – 18:00

Dinner



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Program

Chair:

Matej Avbelj, Professor of European Law, Jean Monnet Chair, New University

1. How and Why is the East Different from the West?

Matej Avbelj, Professor of European Law, Jean Monnet Chair, New University

Konrad Lachmayer, Professor for Public Law, European Law and Foundations of Law in the Faculty of Law and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Law at Sigmund Freud University (SFU) in Vienna.

Leon Marc, Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

Andras Jakab, Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg

Chair: **Jernej Letnar Černič**, Professor of Human Rights and Constitutional Law, New University

2. Constitutional Challenges for the Future of Europe

Darinka Piqani, Assistant professor of EU Law, Leiden University

Ana Wojcik, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Law Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences

Pietro Faraguna, Associate Professor of Constitutional Law, University of Trieste

Zuzana Vikarska, Assistant Professor, Masaryk University

Cormac Mac Amhlaigh, Professor of Public Law, University of Edinburgh

Chair: **Katarina Vatovec**, Assistant Professor of European Law, New University



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3. Economic, Social and Humanitarian Challenges for the Future of Europe

Iris Goldner Lang, a Jean Monnet Professor of European Union Law, University of Zagreb

Verena Rošic Feguš, Assistant Professor of European Law, New University

Igor Masten, Professor of Economics, University of Ljubljana

Marco Dani, Associate professor of Comparative Public Law, University of Trento

Veronika Fikfak, Associate Professor in International Law, UCL

Chair: **Gorazd Justinek**, Assistant Professor of International Political, Economic and Business Relations, New University

4. Political and Geo-strategic Challenges for the Future of Europe

Lauri Mälksoo, Professor of International Law, University of Tartu

Damir Banović, Assistant Professor, University of Sarajevo

Erika de Wett, Professor of International Law and Head of the Institute of International Relations in the Faculty of Law, University of Graz.

Janez Šušteršič, professor of Economics and International Consultant, New University and RE-FORMA, d.o.o

Chair: **Matej Avbelj**, Professor of European Law, Jean Monnet Chair, New University



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