



Strategic Fundamental Rights Litigation

Trier, 22-23 February 2027



EXCELLENCE IN
EUROPEAN LAW⁷

Speakers

Simona Florescu, Litigation Director, Validity, The Hague

Roland Klages, Legal Secretary, Chambers of the First Advocate General Szpunar, Court of Justice of the EU, Luxembourg

Gruša Matevžič, Senior Legal Officer, Hungarian Helsinki Committee, Budapest

Madalina Vlase, Lawyer, European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg

Key topics

- EU Charter in national courts
- Admissibility at the ECtHR
- Differences in the EU and ECHR frameworks
- Practical aspects of ECtHR-submissions

Language
English

Event number
427DT006

Organiser
Mareike Hoffmann (ERA)

Strategic Fundamental Rights Litigation

Monday, 22 February 2027

08:30 Arrival and registration of participants

09:00 **Opening of the seminar and icebreaker**
Mareike Hoffmann

I. LITIGATION AT THE EUROPEAN COURTS

09:30 **Legal procedures before the CJEU**

- Direct actions
- The preliminary reference procedure

Roland Klages

10:30 Discussion

10:45 Coffee break

11:15 **Workshop: Using the EU Charter at national courts**
Simona Florescu

13:15 Lunch

14:15 **Practical aspects of submitting a case to the ECtHR**
Madalina Vlase

15:00 Discussion

15:15 Coffee break

II. STRATEGIC LITIGATION IN EUROPE

15:45 **Case study analysis: Strategic litigation of fundamental rights**

- Understanding and overcoming procedural barriers, and identifying litigation opportunities
- Small group analysis of techniques used in landmark cases

Gruša Matevžič

17:45 End of first seminar day

19:00 Networking dinner

Objective

This seminar provides concise, intensive training in strategic fundamental rights litigation. In 1.5 days, participants gain up-to-date theoretical knowledge on the admissibility criteria of the regional courts and receive practical advice regarding the litigation at the CJEU and ECtHR. A visit to the CJEU and attendance of a hearing grants further insight into the workings of fundamental rights protection in Europe.

Who should attend?

Lawyers in private practice.

You will learn...

- about practical aspects of litigating at the regional level
- how the EU and ECHR legal frameworks offer different advantages for litigation
- about the legal value of the EU Charter
- how to apply and interpret the EU Charter at national level

Venue

ERA Conference Centre
Metzer Allee 4, D-54295 Trier

Networking opportunity

Our legal training events in Trier offer a fantastic opportunity to connect with legal professionals and high-level speakers from different parts of Europe. Together, you will have the chance to network during our coffee breaks and enjoy regional culinary specialties during our networking dinner in a friendly atmosphere.

Evening networking reception

On 22 February, you will have the chance to network with colleagues at our evening reception.

Your contacts



Mareike Hoffmann
Course Director
E-Mail: mhoffmann@era.int



Tatsiana Bras-Gonçalves
Event Coordinator
E-Mail: tbras@era.int

Tuesday, 23 February 2027

III. VISIT TO THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

06:45	Departure to Luxembourg by coach
07:45	Entering the Court of Justice
08:15	Briefing on the case
09:00	Hearing
11:15	Guided tour of the building
12:00	General presentation on the procedure before the General Court and the Court of Justice
13:00	End of seminar

For programme updates: www.era.int
 Programme may be subject to amendment.

Visit Trier

Trier, referred to as “Rome of the North”, is also a diverse city to explore with its rich history, eight UNESCO World Heritage Sites and its local wine. Its proximity to the Luxembourg border makes it an ideal location for those interested in visiting the judicial capital of the EU.



CPD

ERA's programmes meet the standard requirements for recognition as Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Participation in the full programme of this event corresponds to 8 CPD hours.

A certificate of participation for CPD purposes with indication of the number of training hours completed will be issued on request. CPD certificates must be requested at the latest 14 days after the event.

Project website

Visit our website and learn more:
[EU Charter Training for Legal Professionals](#)

Registration

Strategic Fundamental Rights Litigation

Trier, 22-23 February 2027/ Event Number: 427DT006



Apply online until 30 November 2026:

<https://www.era.int/en/event-number/427DT006>



Contact

Tatsiana Bras
Event Coordinator
E-Mail: tbras@era.int
+49 (0) 651 93737-423

Important note

ERA reserves the right to cancel or postpone the event. We therefore strongly advise you not to make any travel or accommodation arrangements or other financial commitments before receiving our final confirmation.

Participation

Participation is open to lawyers in private practice from countries (citizenship of, residency in or place of work in) eligible for the Justice Programme (all Member States except Denmark; including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Moldova** and Ukraine)

** this designation is without prejudice to positions on status*

*** this designation applies to the extent that participants do not replace the European quotas provided for*

Participants will be subject to a selection procedure.

Registration fee

There is no registration fee for participants nominated by project partners, who have reserved places for their applicants. Registration fee for all other participants is €150.

Travel expenses

Participants will receive a fixed contribution toward travel costs, which can be calculated on the European Commission website based on the distance from their place of work to the seminar location:

- €365 will be paid for return air, rail and combined air/rail journey between 401km and 1600km, and of €429 – over 1600km;
- €52 will be paid for intra-Member State return journeys by land between 50 and 400km;
- no contribution will be paid for travel under 50km.

The actual travel costs will not be taken into account. All documents concerning travel expenses (e.g. booking confirmation, tickets, boarding passes) must be kept. Participants are responsible for booking their own travel.

To qualify for the contribution, all attendance sheets must be signed at the event. No payment is possible if the registered participant cancels their participation for any reason.

Accommodation expenses

International participants travelling from a distance more than 50km will receive a fixed contribution of 124,5€/night for 2 nights. Participants are responsible for booking their own accommodation.



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EU Charter Training for Legal Professionals

The training portfolio combines interactive face-to-face sessions, engaging online events, and flexible self-paced learning materials.

The transnational in-person programme includes four cross-professional seminars on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights (18-19 June 2026 in Barcelona; 26-27 October 2026 in Bucharest; in 2027 in Gdansk and in Lisbon), as well as one specialised seminar on EU Charter litigation designed for 35 lawyers in private practice (22-23 February 2027 in Trier).

The online training features four open-access webinars: two focusing on the protection of fundamental rights in the EU (29 April 2026 and 24 April 2027) and two exploring digital tools related to the EU Charter (10 December 2026 and 28 September 2027).

To complement these activities, participants will have access to a rich collection of asynchronous learning materials, including an online library, audio resources, and video podcasts.

For more information visit:
<https://eucharter.era.int/>

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