



Centre for the Law of EU External Relations (CLEER) Conference : Shifting Institutional Dynamics in EU External Relations Law

12 December 2025

Programme

09.00-09.15 Opening: Dr E. Kassoti (T.M.C. Asser Institute, CLEER)

09.15-11.15 Panel 1: Shifting Institutional Dynamics: Trade

Chair: Prof. A. Ott (Maastricht University, CLEER)

- Dorin-Ciprian Grumaz (EUI) – *The European Parliament’s increased role in EU external relations. Article 218 TFEU and EU Trade Agreements*
- Christos Liakis (Ghent University) - *Unlocking the Deadlock: The Portuguese Council Presidency and Legal Mandate Formation in EU Trade Policy*
- Francesca Martines (University of Pisa) – *Evidence and Values on the Global Arena: The European Ombudsman's Inquiry into Trade Impact Assessments*
- Szilárd Gáspár-Szilágyi (Jean Monnet Fellow EUI) - *The Increasing Role of Member States in the EU’s Common Commercial Policy*

11.15-11.30 Coffee Break

11.30-13.00 Panel 2: Shifting Institutional Dynamics: CFSP

Chair: Prof. Peter Van Elsuwege (Ghent University, CLEER)

- Janine Prantl (Austrian Ministry of European and International Affairs) – *Escaping the CFSP via Article 122 TFEU? The example of SAFE*
- Lorant Havas; Melissa Foucaud (EEAS) - *The High Representative before the CJEU: New actor, new prerogatives?*



Centre for International & European Law



- Viktor Szép; Anna Sebestyén (University of Groningen) - *Internally weak, externally strong: third states' reactions to the resolutions of the European Parliament on foreign and security policy matters*

13.00-14.00 Lunch break

14.00-15.30 Panel 3: Shifting Institutional Dynamics: Defence

Chair: Prof. Ramses Wessel (Groningen University, CLEER)

- Davide Genini (Dublin City University) – *The Evolving role of the European Defence Agency in Building a European Common Defence*
- Nathan Meershoek (University of Utrecht) - *The Principle of Institutional Balance in the Field of Military Industries: The Commission vs the European Defence Agency*
- Sara Notario (University of Geneva) - *New friends, old strangers: The institutional shift in the Common Defence and Security Policy-related litigation and its procedural challenges*

15.30-16.00 Coffee Break

16.00-17.00 Panel 4: Shifting Institutional Dynamics: External Representation

Chair: Dr Joris Larik (Leiden University, CLEER)

- Cristina Contartese (University of Campania, Luigi Vanvitelli), Prof. Andrés Delgado Casteleiro (CUNEF Universidad) – *EU External Representation and the Division of Powers between the Council and the Commission in the CJEU's Case law*
- Xenia Seabright (University of Vienna) - *Who Speaks for Europe at the Basel Table? Fragmented EU Representation in Global Banking Standard-Setting and the Re-drawn Institutional Balance of EU External Relations*

17.00-18.00 Panel 5: Shifting Institutional Dynamics: External Accountability Challenges and Mechanisms

Chair: Prof. Merijn Chamon (Vrije Universiteit Brussel, CLEER)



- Vassilis Pergantis (Aristotle University, Thessaloniki) – *The ECHR regime as “smooth operator” regarding the shifting institutional dynamics in EU external relations?*
- Katrina Perehudoff (University of Amsterdam) – *The European Medicines Agency abroad: Questions of competence, legal obligations, and accountability for the globalisation of EU pharmaceutical norms*

18.00-18.10 Closing Remarks

18.10 Reception