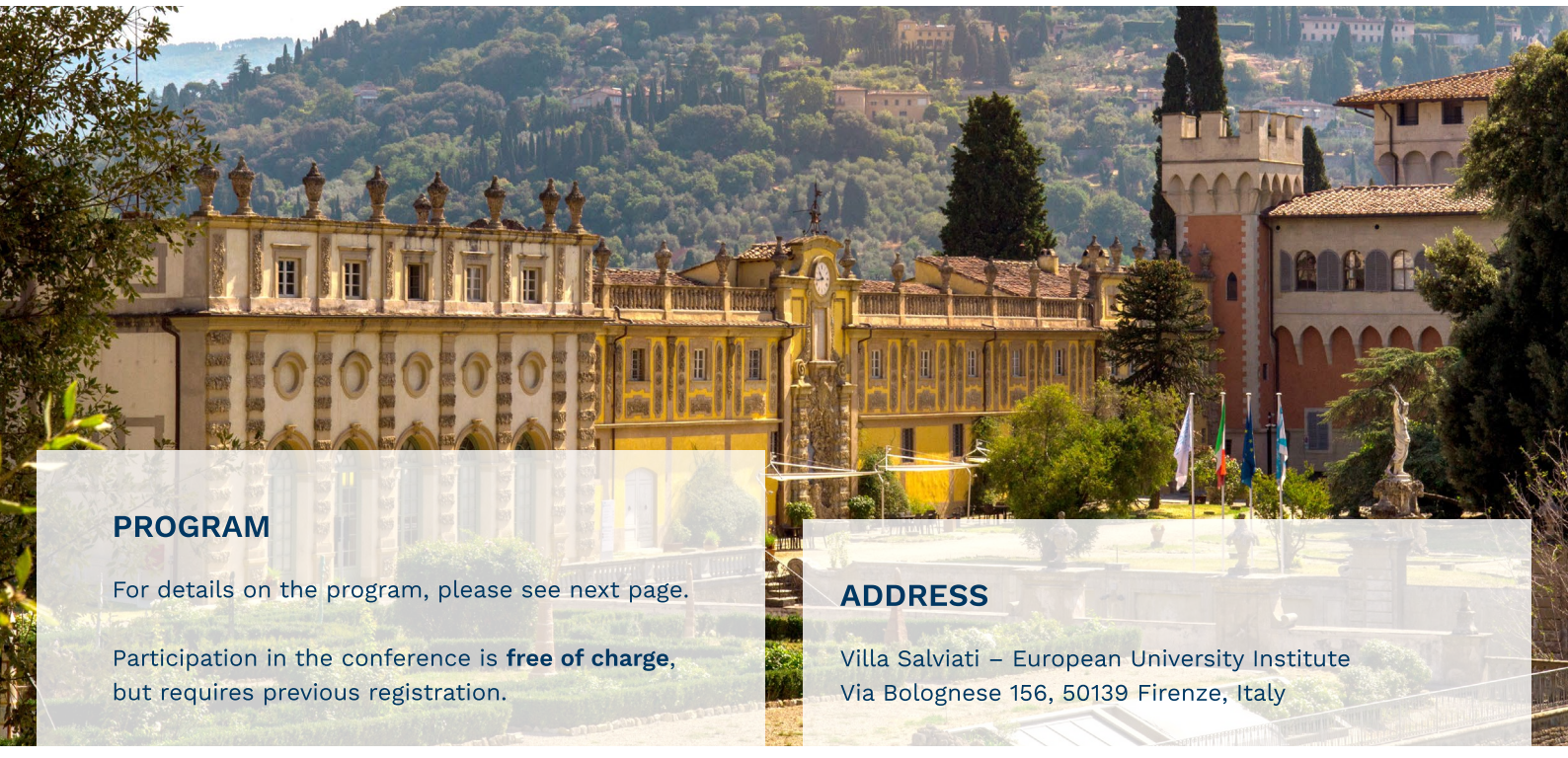
Regional Human Rights Systems from a Comparative Perspective

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
12 – 13 December 2019

European University Institute, Florence
Villa Salviati, Law Department



PROGRAM

For details on the program, please see next page.

Participation in the conference is **free of charge**, but requires previous registration.

ADDRESS

Villa Salviati – European University Institute
Via Bolognese 156, 50139 Firenze, Italy

List of Participants and their Affiliation

Andreas von Arnauld Kiel University
Mark Dawson Hertie School of Governance / EUI
Tim Eicke European Court of Human Rights
Tamirace Fakhoury Lebanese American University
Eleni Frantziou Durham University
Hans-Joachim Heintze Ruhr University Bochum
David Kinley University of Sydney
Lys Kulamadayil German Foreign Ministry
Alice Ollino University of Milano-Bicocca
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Michael Riegner Humboldt University Berlin
Mervat Rishmawi Universities of Essex & Nottingham
Martin Scheinin EUI
Pierre Thielbörger Ruhr University / EUI
Christian Tomuschat Humboldt University Berlin
Frans Viljoen University of Pretoria

Moderators

Neha Jain
EUI

Ernst-Ulrich Petersmann
EUI

Urška Šadl
EUI

Margot Salomon
London School of Economics

Joanne Scott
EUI

CONTACT

If you want to register or have any questions, please contact: **regionalhumanrights@rub.de**

For further information visit: **www.ifhv.de**

ORGANIZERS

Pierre Thielbörger
Main Organizer

Tamirace Fakhoury
Cooperating Organizer

Vanessa Bliecke
Assistant Organizer

Rouven Diekjobst
Assistant Organizer

INTRODUCTION

The protection of human rights is not only a national and global, it is also a regional endeavor. However, despite human rights' supposedly universal reach, there are still many problems within the different regional systems of protection, such as substantive protection gaps or weaknesses in enforceability. The conference addresses these problems by looking to regional human rights mechanisms with a view to detecting their respective strengths and weaknesses, and to identify lessons for the global system to be learned from regional ones, and for regional systems to learn from each other. In light of significant recent developments, both politically and legally, it appears to be high time to spark the debate on regional human rights systems again.

THURSDAY
12 December 2019

12:00 - 13:00 Welcome Lunch for organizers, speakers and moderators (Sala degli Stemmi)

13:00 - 13:15 Introduction Pierre Thielbörger (Sala del Consiglio)

13:15 - 14:45 **PANEL 1:** Universality vs. Particularity

GUIDING QUESTION
How do regional human rights systems manage the tension between the universality of human rights and the particularity of value systems & systems of government(s)?

Christian Tomuschat
Interpretation of human rights in regional instruments: Moderation – but forceful defence of the basic foundations of human dignity

Martin Scheinin
Universality vs. Particularity: the perspective of UN treaty bodies and regional human rights systems

Mervat Rishmawi
Universality vs. Particularity: the perspective from the League of Arab States' human rights system

Moderator: Neha Jain

14:45 - 15:00 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

15:00 - 16:30 **PANEL 2:** New Rights and New Concepts

GUIDING QUESTION
Do judges establish new human rights or new concepts, e.g. relating to territoriality or essence, and how do they do so?

Andreas von Arnauld
New human rights in different regional human rights systems

Pierre Thielbörger
A notion of 'essence' of human rights in regional human rights systems

Alice Ollino
Recent developments on extraterritoriality in different regional human rights systems

Moderator: Urška Šadl

16:30 - 16:45 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

16:45 - 18:15 **PANEL 3:** Populism

GUIDING QUESTION
How do regional courts respond to the populist wave in modern politics in their region, in particular how to they address challenges relating to lack of compliance?

Mark Dawson
Coping with the 'Populist Challenge' to EU fundamental rights

Tim Eicke
Populism from the point of view of the European Court of Human Rights

Sabrina Ragone
Countering Populism and Non-Compliance: Approaches by the Inter-American human rights system

Moderator: Ernst-Ulrich Petersmann

20:00 Conference dinner for organizers, speakers and moderators

FRIDAY
13 December 2019

9:00 - 9:30 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

9:30 - 11.30 **PANEL 4:** Vulnerable Groups

GUIDING QUESTION
How do the regional systems adapt to societal challenges relating to vulnerable groups, e.g., forced migration, environmental degradation, abuse of children or increasing homophobia?

Frans Viljoen
LGBT rights in regional human rights systems with a focus on the African human rights system

Lys Kulamadayil
Resource exploitation in different regional human rights systems

Tamirace Fakhoury
Refugee law and politics in the Middle East: how legal and political refugee regimes clash

Hans-Joachim Heintze
Children's rights in different regional human rights systems

Moderator: Joanne Scott

11:30 - 11:45 Coffee Break (Sala della Conchiglia)

11:45 - 13:15 **PANEL 5:** Business and Finance

GUIDING QUESTION
Are there elements of horizontalization of human rights in regional systems, e.g. do judges hold other entities responsible apart from States (e.g. companies or financial institutions)?

Michael Riegner
Business and human rights in the European, African and Inter-American human rights systems

Eleni Frantziou
The horizontalization of human rights in the EU

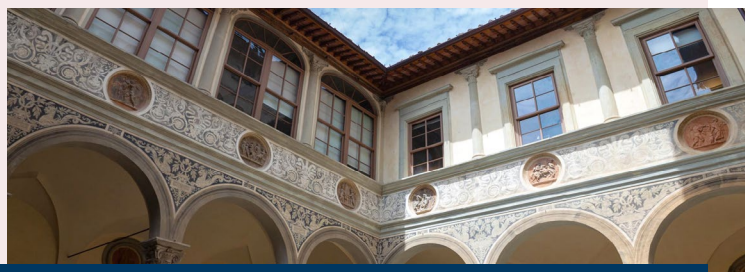
David Kinley
Finance and human rights: where the local is global

Moderator: Margot Salomon

13:15 - 13:30 Conclusion Pierre Thielbörger & Tamirace Fakhoury

13:30 - 14:30 Goodbye lunch for for organizers, speakers and moderators (Sala degli Stemmi)

From 14:30 Departure of participants



REGISTER

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