



17.03.2023 **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
LEGAL SERVICE



Morning session
Internet and platforms regulation
under the Digital Markets Act
and the Digital Services Act

Afternoon session
Intergenerational Justice
and Climate Litigation

Brussels,
Charlemagne Building



WELCOMING REMARKS



Mr Daniel Calleja Crespo
Director-General of the Legal Service
European Commission

Dear participants,

The European Commission's Legal Service just turned 70. This is a great opportunity to highlight the importance of EU law for citizens, as we have done in our book "70 years of EU law. A Union for its citizens" and to facilitate a forum for dialogue and discussion with all actors of EU law on the most pressing challenges and the most important innovations in EU law, by organising this annual conference.

The Legal Service wants to exchange regularly with judges, lawyers, in-house counsel, non-governmental organisations, academics, as well as officials in local, regional, national, EU and international administrations on central topics of EU law.

For this annual conference, we have chosen two topics that are currently hotly debated in legal circles, and at the same time are covering Commission's priorities for the years 2019-2024: A Europe fit for the digital age and A European Green Deal.

The first topic will discuss the implementation and enforcement of the internet and of digital platforms regulation following the entry into force of the Digital Markets Act and the Digital Services Act. The second topic will analyse the judicial developments concerning intergenerational justice and climate litigation.

We hope that this annual conference will offer ample opportunity to engage in informal in-person discussions, now that the pandemic is behind us. We count on your participation, expertise and support.

Daniel Calleja

Since July 2020, **Daniel Calleja** has been the Director-General of the Legal Service of the European Commission. Between 2015 and 2020, he was Director-General of the Directorate-General for Environment, and between 2012 and 2015, of the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. Previously, he occupied other senior management positions within the European Commission, including Head of Cabinet of the Vice-President of the European Commission Ms Loyola de Palacio, in charge of Transport and Energy (between 2000 and 2004), Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Mr Marcelino Oreja, in charge of Institutional Affairs, Audiovisual Policy and Relations with the European Parliament (between 1995 and 1999), and Member of the Cabinet of the President of the Commission Mr Jacques Santer (in 1995). He joined the Commission of the European Communities in 1986, as a Member of its Legal Service. Before that, he was legal adviser to Procter & Gamble Spain between 1984 and 1986. Additionally, Mr Calleja has acted as an EU law lecturer in several academic institutions, including the European Institute of Public Administration, the College of Europe, Comillas Pontifical University ICADE and Fordham University, among others. He is co-author of several publications, including "70 Years of EU Law" (2022) and "Achieving the Single European Sky: goals and challenges" (2011).

Mr Calleja holds a dual bachelor's degree in Law and Business Administration from Comillas Pontifical University ICADE, a diploma in European Business Law from City of London Polytechnic and a diploma in EU Law from Universidad Complutense.

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| 8.00 - 9.15 | REGISTRATION AND WELCOME COFFEE |
| 9.15 - 9.40 | WELCOMING REMARKS Mr Daniel Calleja Crespo, <i>Director-General of the Legal Service, European Commission</i> |
| MORNING SESSION | Internet and platforms regulation under the Digital Markets Act and the Digital Services Act |
| 9.40 - 10.00 | KEYNOTE SPEECH Mr Thierry Breton, <i>Commissioner for Internal Market, European Commission</i> |
| 10.00 - 10.30 | GUEST OF HONOUR SPEECH Mr Marc van der Woude, <i>President, General Court of the European Union</i> |
| 10.30 - 11.00 | Coffee break |
| 11.00 - 12.30 | ROUNDTABLE |
| Moderator | Mr Vittorio Di Bucci, <i>Director, Legal Service, European Commission</i> |
| Panellists | Mr Olivier Guersent, <i>Director-General, DG COMP, European Commission</i> Ms Cani Fernández Vicién, <i>President, Spanish Competition Authority</i> Ms Katherine L. Adams, <i>General Counsel and Senior Vice-President, Apple Inc.</i> Mr Roberto Viola, <i>Director-General, DG CNECT, European Commission</i> Ms Viktoria Robertson, <i>Professor, Vienna University of Economics and Business, University of Graz</i> |
| 12.30 - 13.00 | DISCUSSION – Q&A |
| 13.00 - 14.30 | Networking Lunch (buffet provided for the conference attendees) |
| AFTERNOON SESSION | Intergenerational Justice and Climate Litigation |
| 14.30 - 14.50 | VIDEO ADDRESS Mr Virginijus Sinkevičius, <i>Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, European Commission</i> |
| 14.40 - 15.10 | GUEST OF HONOUR SPEECH Ms Verena Madner, <i>Vice-President, Constitutional Court of Austria</i> |
| 15.10 - 15.30 | INTRODUCTORY SPEECH Mr Kurt Vandenbergh, <i>Director-General, DG CLIMA, European Commission</i> |
| 15.30 - 16.50 | ROUNDTABLE |
| Moderator | Mr Marc van Hoof, <i>Director, Legal Service, European Commission</i> |
| Panellists | Mr Fabien Raynaud, <i>Deputy-President and General Rapporteur, Section of the Report and Studies, Conseil d'État de la République Française</i> Ms Lucy Maxwell, <i>Co-Director of the Climate Litigation Network, Urgenda Foundation</i> Mr Christian Calliess, <i>Professor, Freie Universität Berlin</i> Ms Alicja Sikora-Kaléda, <i>Legal Service, Council of the European Union</i> Mr André Bouquet, <i>Legal Advisor, Legal Service, European Commission</i> |
| 16.50 - 17.20 | Coffee break |
| 17.20 - 17.50 | DISCUSSION - Q&A |
| 17.50 - 18.20 | CLOSING REMARKS Mr Clemens Ladenburger, <i>Deputy Director-General of the Legal Service, European Commission</i> |

Internet and platforms regulation under the Digital Markets Act and the Digital Services Act



Mr Thierry Breton
Commissioner for Internal Market
European Commission

Commissioner Breton will give his insight on the making of the DSA and DMA which he oversaw, the impact these pieces of legislation will have in Europe and beyond on the organisation of the digital space as well as the implementation challenges they represent for the Commission.

Thierry Breton has been the European Commissioner for the Internal Market since 2019. He is responsible for industry, digital, defence and space, as well as tourism, services and audiovisual. From 2009 to 2019, Mr Breton was CEO of a major European digital technology company, chairing in parallel the French National Research and Technology Association. In 2008-2009, he taught governance in Boston, USA, at Harvard Business School. In 2005, he was appointed Minister for Economic Affairs, Finance and Industry of France, a post which he held until 2007. Prior to this, he ran a number of large companies in the IT and telco sector. An engineer in computer science, Thierry Breton began his career as a tech entrepreneur.



Mr Marc van der Woude
President
General Court of the European Union

Marc van der Woude is the president of the General Court of the European Union. He started his career as a tutor at the College of Europe in Bruges (1984-1986) and as a lecturer at Leiden University (1986-1987). He then joined the European institutions where he worked for DG Competition (1987-1989, 1992-1993), the European Court of Justice as a legal secretary (1989-1992) and the Commission's Legal Service (1993-1995). He resigned from the European civil service to become a member of the Brussels bar, where he practiced European and competition law for fifteen years (1995-2010). Marc van der Woude became a professor in competition law at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam (since 2000) and acted four years as an advisor on energy policy for the Dutch government (2002-2006). Marc van der Woude is an author of numerous publications on European and competition law and still teaches at Rotterdam University.

Internet and platforms regulation under the Digital Markets Act and the Digital Services Act

In 2023, the Commission, national authorities and national courts start applying and enforcing the Digital Services Act (DSA) and the Digital Markets Act (DMA). The DSA brings about a comprehensive regulation of the internet and of online intermediary services, with differentiated rules depending on the size and role of such services, which will provide better protection for internet users and their fundamental rights.

The DMA will ensure fair, open and contestable digital markets by laying down specific obligations

for the largest platforms, so-called gatekeepers providing services which are important channels for business users to reach consumers. We will discuss the expectations and the difficulties linked to these new instruments with the participation of high-level specialists from the European institutions, from national enforcers, from the platforms themselves and from academia. A particular emphasis will be put on the possibilities for private entities to ensure that the new rules are enforced and on legal remedies available.

MODERATOR: Mr Vittorio Di Bucci, Director, Legal Service, European Commission



Ms Cani Fernández Vicién
President
Spanish Competition Authority

Since June 2020, **Cani Fernández Vicién** has been the President of the Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission (CNMC). Previously, for more than 30 years (from 1987 to 2020), she worked as a lawyer in private practice specialized in EU and Competition Law. Between 1993 and 1997 she was référendaire at the Court of Justice of the European Union. Likewise, she has been associate professor at different academic institutions such as the Toulouse School of Economics, McGeorge University of the Pacific, Universidad Carlos III, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona and the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, among others. She was the first woman to be appointed as Co-Chair of the Antitrust Committee of the International Bar Association (IBA). In addition, she held the position of Vice-chair of the Economics Committee of the Antitrust Section at the American Bar Association (ABA), Officer of the International Cartel Task Force of the ABA Antitrust Section, and member of the IBA LPD Council. She was also a Non-Governmental Advisor (NGA) of the EU Commission and the CNMC before the International Competition Network (ICN). She is the author of numerous publications in Competition and EU Law, and a regular speaker on these matters. Ms Fernández holds a degree in Law with merit from the Universidad de Zaragoza (1986) and has a special Degree in European Law for the Université Libre de Bruxelles in 1987, with Great Distinction.



Mr Roberto Viola
Director-General of DG CNECT
European Commission

Roberto Viola is Director-General of the Directorate-General for Communication, Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT) at the European Commission. He was the Deputy Director-General of DG CONNECT from 2012 to 2015. Roberto Viola served as Chairman of the European Radio Spectrum Policy group (RSPG) from 2012 to 2013, as Deputy Chairman in 2011 and Chairman in 2010. He was a member of the BEREC Board (Body of European Telecom Regulators), and Chairman of the European Regulatory Group (ERG). He held the position of Secretary-General in charge of managing AGCOM, from 2005 to 2012. Prior to this, he served as Director of the Regulation Department and Technical Director in AGCOM from 1999 to 2004. From 1985-1999, he served in various positions including Head of Telecommunication and Broadcasting Satellite Services at the European Space Agency (ESA). Roberto Viola has a degree in Electronic Engineering and a Masters in Business Administration (MBA).

Internet and platforms regulation under the Digital Markets Act and the Digital Services Act



Ms Katherine L. Adams
*General Counsel and Senior
Vice-President
Apple Inc.*

Katherine Adams is Apple's general counsel and senior vice president of Legal and Global Security, reporting to CEO Tim Cook. Kate serves on the company's executive team and oversees all legal matters, including corporate governance, intellectual property, litigation and securities compliance, global security and privacy. Kate joined Apple from Honeywell in 2017, where she worked for 14 years, most recently as senior vice president and general counsel. At Honeywell, Kate was in charge of the organization's global legal strategy across more than 100 countries. Prior to joining Honeywell, Kate was a partner at Sidley Austin LLP in New York. Earlier in her career, she served as a law clerk for Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor; as trial attorney for the United States Department of Justice, Appellate Section, Environment and Natural Resources division; and as law clerk for Stephen Breyer, then chief judge of the US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Kate earned a bachelor's degree in Comparative Literature from Brown University and a law degree from the University of Chicago Law School.



Mr Olivier Guersent
*Director-General of DG COMP
European Commission*

Olivier Guersent graduated with distinction from the "Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Bordeaux" in 1983. He joined the French Ministry of Economy and Finance in 1984, where he carried out many investigations for the French Competition Authority.

He joined the European Commission in 1992, initially with the «Merger Task Force» in the Directorate-General for Competition. Since then, he has alternated between the private offices of a number of European Commissioners (Karel Van Miert, Michel Barnier and Neelie Kroes) and DG Competition (successively Deputy Head of Unit in charge of cartels, Head of Unit in charge of policy and coordination of cases, Head of Unit in charge of merger control, Acting Director "Transport, postal and other services» and, from 2009, Director responsible for the fight against cartels. From 2010 to 2014 he was the head of the private office of Michel Barnier, Commissioner for Internal Market and Services. Having held the position of Deputy Director-General since July 2014, Olivier Guersent has been Director-General of the Directorate-General for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union from 1 September 2015 to 31 December 2019. As of 1st January 2020 he is the Director General of the Directorate General for Competition.

Married and a father of three children, Olivier Guersent is a member of the board of of the non-profit organisation Aremis that provides medical care in the home, primarily to cancer patients in the Brussels area. He is a regular lecturer to postgraduate university students.



Ms Viktoria Robertson, Prof. Dr
*Vienna University of Economics
and Business
University of Graz*

Viktoria H.S.E. Robertson, Prof. Dr, is Professor of Competition Law and Digitalization at the Vienna University of Economics and Business (since September 2020) and Professor of International Antitrust Law at the University of Graz (since December 2020). She is also Director of the independent research platform The Competition Law Hub (complawhub.eu). Between 2014 and 2020, she was first Assistant and then Associate Professor at the University of Graz. Amongst others, Professor Robertson has been a visiting academic with Oxford University's Centre for Competition Law and Policy, the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, Stanford University and the FGV-Rio Law School. She has taught competition law at Oxford University, the European University Institute, the College of Europe, Graz University and the Vienna University of Economics and Business. She is a member of the European Law Institute and the Academic Society for Competition Law. Professor Robertson's current research focuses on the application of competition law in digital market environments, comparative antitrust and sustainability concerns within competition law. She is the author of numerous contributions on digital competition law as well as of several monographs, including *Competition Law – Austria* (Kluwer 2021) and *Competition Law's Innovation Factor: The Relevant Market in Dynamic Contexts in the EU and the US* (Hart Publishing 2020). Professor Robertson holds a law diploma (2007) and a doctorate (2012) from the University of Graz and an Mjur from Oxford University (2011). In 2004/05, she studied at the University of Zaragoza.

Intergenerational Justice and Climate Litigation



Mr Virginijus Sinkevičius
Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries
European Commission

The green transition and the protection of the rule of law are two priorities of the von der Leyen Commission. The green transition and the environmental rule of law are also key tools in tackling the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. Commissioner Sinkevičius will give his insights on how climate litigation, at national and European level, can contribute towards achieving those priorities, and how the Commission can play a critical role in shaping the legal debate.

Virginijus Sinkevičius is the present Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, at the European Commission. Mr Sinkevičius was Minister of Economy of Lithuania from 2017 to 2019, and before he was leading the Committee of Economy at the Parliament of Lithuania. Mr Sinkevičius was elected to the Parliament in October 2016. Prior, he was a Team Lead for Regulatory Affairs at Invest Lithuania. Mr Sinkevičius holds BA in International Relations and Affairs from Aberystwyth University and Master's degree in European International Affairs from Maastricht University.



Ms Verena Madner
Vice-President
Constitutional Court of Austria

Verena Madner is Vice-President of the Constitutional Court of Austria since 2020. She is Professor of Public Law, Environmental Law, Public and Urban Governance at the Department of Socioeconomics at Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU) since 2011. At WU, Verena Madner is also head of the Institute for Law and Governance and co-head of the Research Institute for Urban Management and Governance. In 2019 she was Research Fellow and Visiting Professor at the University of Siena. Since 2000 Verena Madner was a member of the Independent Environmental Tribunal, holding the chair between 2008 and 2013. She joined WU as a teaching and research associate in 1990 and, between 2000 and 2011, was assistant professor at the Institute for Constitutional and Administrative Law. Between 1996 and 1997 she worked as legal expert at the International Law Office of the Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Verena Madner is a legal scholar with more than 25 years of experience in teaching and research in the fields of public law, with a focus on environmental, planning and infrastructure law. She has conducted numerous interdisciplinary research projects on – inter alia – trade and environment, smart cities and urban energy transitions. Recent publications include Madner, V. (2022), “Europäisierung der Wirtschaftsverfassung” in Holoubek/Kahl/Schwarzer (Ed.), *Wirtschaftsverfassungsrecht*; and Mayr, S., Hollaus, B., & Madner, V. (2021), “Palm oil, the RED II and WTO law: EU sustainable biofuel policy tangled up in green?” in *RECIEL – Review of European, Comparative & International Environmental Law*. Verena Madner holds a degree in Law from the University of Vienna (1989 Mag.iur., 1994 Dr.iur.).

Intergenerational Justice and Climate Litigation

In the Paris Agreement of 2015, nearly 200 countries agreed to keep the rise in mean global temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels, and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 °C. To implement the Paris Agreement, the European Union adopted the EU Climate Law in June 2021. In addition, in July 2021, the Commission proposed a package of interconnected legislative measures known as “Fit for 55”, on which the negotiations between Parliament and Council are advancing rapidly.

To ensure that Member States live up to the Paris Agreement and related EU law obligations, citizens, environmental non-governmental organizations and even cities throughout the world have started to bring legal actions before national courts, the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human

Rights. This year, judicial review will move to the global level. The UN General Assembly may refer a request for an advisory opinion to the International Court of Justice; and the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea will hear arguments on the obligations under international law that are relevant to climate change.

The Conference will analyse these trends, compare them, and address a few questions: what is the precise legal nature of the Paris Agreement, and how does it interact with other rules of international law? Are national legal actions effective to protect us against a global phenomenon? Are judges interpreting rules or actually creating them, and what is their legitimacy to do so? What is the role of science in litigation? And how do those different judicial levels interact with each other?

MODERATOR: Mr Marc van Hoof, *Director, Legal Service, European Commission*



Mr Kurt Vandenberghe
Director-General of DG CLIMA
European Commission

Kurt Vandenberghe was appointed Director General of DG CLIMA on 16 January 2023. Until then, he was the Green Deal and Health advisor to President Ursula von der Leyen since 1 December 2019. He had joined the cabinet of the President coming from DG Research and Innovation where he was Director for Policy & Programming since 1 February 2016 and Acting Director for Research & Innovation Outreach since 1 June 2019. Before that, he was Director for ‘Climate action and resource efficiency’ at DG Research and Innovation since July 2013. He served in the Cabinet of Research Commissioner Philippe Busquin (1999-2004) and as Head of the Cabinet of Janez Potočnik, who was Commissioner for Research and Innovation (2004-2009) and subsequently for Environment (from 2010). Kurt joined the European Commission in 1996 as co-ordinator of the Commission’s Intermodal Transport Task Force and of the Transport Research Programme. Before entering the Commission, Kurt worked for 4 years as a manager at Ernst & Young Association Management, where he set up, managed and represented international trade associations. After studying French and Italian literature at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL) and obtaining a degree in Public and International Affairs at the University Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve (UCL), Kurt earned a Master of Arts degree in International Relations at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (S.A.I.S.) in Bologna, Italy and Washington D.C., US.



Mr Fabien Raynaud
Deputy-President and General Rapporteur
Section of the Report and Studies
Conseil d'État de la République Française

Conseiller d’Etat since 2009, **Fabien Raynaud** is, since May 2022, the deputy-president of the Section of the Report and Studies of the French Conseil d’Etat. Between 2016 and 2022, he was president of the 6th chamber of the Litigation Section of the French Conseil d’Etat, chamber in charge notably of the Environment litigations. Between 2012 and 2016 he was deputy-president of the 4th chamber (in charge of the litigation from the ministry of education and research). Previously, Mr Raynaud was European advisor of the President of the French Republic Nicolas Sarkozy (2007-2012), legal advisor of the French Permanent Representation to the EU (2002-2007) and legal advisor of the Secretariat General for European Affairs (1999-2002). Before that, he was responsible of the research service of the French Conseil d’Etat (1997-1999) and rapporteur to the Litigation Section of the French Conseil d’Etat (1994-1997). Mr Raynaud holds a diploma from Sciences Po Paris (1990) and is graduated from ENA (1994, promotion Saint-Exupéry). Knight of the Legion of Honor (2016), he is also member of the College of the French Competition Authority and judge at the Tribunal of the European Space Agency.

Intergenerational Justice and Climate Litigation



Ms Lucy Maxwell
*Co-Director of the Climate
Litigation Network
Urgenda Foundation*

Lucy Maxwell is the Co-Director of the Climate Litigation Network, a project of the Urgenda Foundation, a Dutch non-profit sustainability organisation. The Climate Litigation Network works behind the scenes with local and global partners to support ground-breaking climate cases that compel national governments to ramp up their mitigation ambition. Ms Maxwell is an Australian-qualified lawyer with a decade of experience working on human rights, climate change and strategic litigation in national and regional for a. Ms Maxwell has previously worked as a legal associate in an international human rights non-profit organisation in London, and as a solicitor advising governments in Australia and the United Kingdom. Ms Maxwell and her colleagues recently published a paper on ‘Standards for Adjudicating the Next Generation of Urgenda-Style Climate Cases’ (Journal of Human Rights and the Environment). Ms Maxwell holds a Bachelor of Laws (First Class) and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Melbourne, and a Master of Laws (Distinction) from the London School of Economics and Political Science.



Mr Christian Calliess, Prof. Dr
Freie Universität Berlin

Christian Calliess, Prof. Dr, is the holder of the Chair for Public, Environmental and European Law at Freie Universität Berlin as well as holder of an Ad Personam Jean-Monnet-Chair. From 2015 until 2018 he was on leave from academia, to work as the Legal Adviser to the European Political Strategy Center (EPSC), the In-House-Think-Tank of the President of the European Commission, where he was as well Head of the Institutional Team. In 2001 he became Professor and Director of the Institute for European Law at the University of Graz, and in 2003 he became Professor and Director of the Institute of International and European Law at the University of Göttingen. Since 2008 he is Professor at Free University of Berlin. Mr Calliess studied law at the Universities of Saarbrücken and Göttingen, afterwards he obtained a Master at the College of Europe in Bruges. In 1995 he finished with his Second State Examination in Berlin, obtained his doctoral degree and joined the Europa-Institut in Saarbrücken to become Assistant Professor. In 2000 he finished his habilitation with a book on the rule of law, environmental law, the precautionary principle and fundamental rights (Rechtsstaat und Umweltstaat), which was awarded the prize of the German Gesellschaft für Umweltrecht (GfU). Mr Calliess serves regularly as an expert in hearings of the German Parliament (Bundestag) and at several occasions of the EP and the Commission. From 2011-2012 he was invited by the German Chancellor Angela Merkel to serve as an expert in a dialogue on Germany's Future. From 2012-2014 he was advising the German Parliament and representing it at the German Federal Constitutional Court as well as the Court of the EU in the ESM- and OMT-Case. He publishes regularly on European, Constitutional and Environmental Law, among others he is co-editor and author of a Commentary on EU Law.



Ms Alicja Sikora-Kaléda, Dr hab.
*Legal Service
Council of the European Union*

Alicja Sikora-Kaléda, Dr hab., is an EU law academic, lecturer and practitioner with 20 years of experience in EU law and litigation. Since 2017 she has been a Legal Advisor to the Council of the European Union and the European Council where she represented the Council in a number of high-profile cases. Between 2004 and 2017, Alicja Sikora-Kaléda was acting as a Legal Secretary (référéndaire) at the Court of Justice of the European Union. Between 2003 and 2004 she was a case-handler at the DG Competition (State Aid) of the European Commission. She is a Member of the Polish Bar (Cracow). Alicja Sikora-Kaléda obtained a habilitation degree in law at the Jagiellonian University (Poland) in 2022. She is an Associate Member of International Academy of Comparative Law since 2021 and an Associated Researcher at Centre d'étude du droit de l'environnement (CEDRE) of the UCLouvain Saint-Louis University (Brussels) since 2020. Dr hab. Alicja Sikora-Kaléda has been Senior Lecturer at the Law Faculty of the Jagiellonian University since 2013, where she obtained her Ph.D. in Law in 2011. She is a graduate of the Jagiellonian University (2002) and Université de Reims-Champagne-Ardenne (2003). Her research interests focus on the constitutional aspects of EU law and EU environmental law. She has published on a variety of topics, including a monograph on the financial penalties under Article 260 TFEU (Kluwer Poland 2011). Her recent monograph “Constitutionalisation of environmental protection in EU law” (Europa Law Publishing 2020) received wide acclaim.

CLOSING REMARKS



Mr Clemens Ladenburger

*Deputy Director-General of the Legal Service
European Commission*

Clemens Ladenburger has been the Deputy Director-General of the European Commission's Legal Service since March 2022. From 2017 to 2022 he was Director for Justice and Home Affairs in that Service. From 2008 to 2017 he served as Assistant to the Director-General of that Service, tasked with overall legal coordination. Before, he had mainly worked on institutional law, as a member of the Legal Service's Team "Institutions" (2000 - 2002 and 2003 - 2007), as rédacteur seconded to the inter-institutional secretariat of the Convention which drew up the draft Constitution for Europe in 2002 - 2003, and as a lawyer in the Commission's team for the "Charter" Convention of 2000. Mr Ladenburger started his EU career in 1998 - 1999 in the Council, working in the Cabinet of then Secretary-General Jürgen Trumpf. Before coming to Brussels, he had been an official of the German Federal Ministry of Justice and an academic assistant at University of Heidelberg. He teaches as Honorary Professor at the Europa Institute of the Saarland University. In 2023 he will again serve as institutional (co-)rapporteur for FIDE, as he did in 2012. He has published and lectured widely on fundamental rights, Justice and Home Affairs, criminal law, the Treaty of Lisbon, the Convention method, economic governance, administrative and environmental law. Mr Ladenburger holds a doctor iur. from Heidelberg and an LL.M. from University of Chicago. He passed his first and second State Exams in law in Baden-Württemberg (1992 and 1995), after studies in Freiburg and Geneva.

THE LEGAL SERVICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The Legal Service of the Commission is the in-house legal counsel of the institution, covering all its activities and areas of responsibility. Its eminently horizontal nature is what earned it its nickname of “service of services”. In view of its role, the Legal Service is under the direct authority of the President of the Commission, and its Director-General takes part in the weekly meetings of the College of Commissioners.

The mission of the Legal Service is rooted in the provisions of the founding Treaties and in the specific institutional functions and responsibilities assigned to the Commission, in particular as guardian of the Treaties, drafter and enforcer of secondary legislation and negotiator of international agreements subject to the consent of the Council and the European Parliament. Specifically, as a single, horizontal service, the Legal Service provides independent legal advice to the Commission as a whole, in order to assist it to achieve its policy objectives. The Legal Service receives over 14000 consultations per year.

Furthermore, the Legal Service represents the Commission before the EU, national and international courts and arbitration bodies. In so doing, it pursues the enforcement of EU law and defends measures attributable to the Commission and/or the European Union. It also assists the Court of Justice by presenting the Commission’s position in all preliminary reference procedures. The Commission participates in over 1000 court cases each year.

Additionally, the Legal Service provides advice to the Commission in its legislative and regulatory tasks seeking to ensure that all legal texts adopted by the Commission fully respect the Treaties and are drafted with the necessary legal clarity and in the interest of EU citizens.

Finally, by means of the Annual Conference of the European Commission Legal Service, the Legal Service aims to bring together all actors of EU law (judges, lawyers, in-house counsel, academics, lawyers in the Union Institutions, Member States administrations and NGOs, among other stakeholders) to exchange on central topics of EU law.

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INFORMATION ON ACCREDITATION

The Conference has been accredited by several national bar associations for the purposes of the continuing professional development (CPD) of their members.

Registered participants who need a certificate of attendance can request it after having attended the Conference by sending an email to **sj-conference@ec.europa.eu**, specifying their first and last names.