



NEWSLETTER

DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW: A NEW PUSH FOR EUROPEAN VALUES



Al Act: The EU's first approach to Artificial Intelligence

On 12 July 2024, <u>Regulation (EU) 2024/1689 of the European Parliament and of the</u> <u>Council of June 13, 2024, establishing harmonized rules on artificial intelligence</u> (AI Act), approved last march, was published in the Official Journal of the European Union. This is the first piece of legislation in the EU and worldwide formulated on artificial intelligence, introduced to regulate innovations and, at the same time, control the risks associated with them. In particular, a uniform legal framework for the development, market deployment and use of AI is defined, providing requirements and obligations to developers and operators and ensuring the needs of transparency, data security and protection of human rights. The regulation will be fully applicable two years after its entry into force.



Statement by the EU High Representative on the anniversary of Mahsa Amini's death



On **16 september 2024**, on the second anniversary of the death of Jina Mahsa Amini, the **High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy**, Josep Borrell, <u>renewed the call to</u> <u>the Iranian authorities to respect the human rights of its people</u>. Specifically, **the EU calls on Iran** to **eliminate systemic discrimination against women** in public and private life and to take appropriate measures to protect them from gender-based violence; to implement the fundamental rights treaties to which it is a party; to allow free access to the country to the mandate holders of the Special Procedures of the U.N. Human Rights Council and to cooperate in their investigations; to end the unacceptable and unlawful practice of arbitrary detention, including of EU nationals and persons with dual EU-Iran citizenship; and to respect and defend the rights of its citizens, allow them to demonstrate peacefully, and guarantee their fundamental freedoms.

CJEU: Right to an effective remedy, a national court is not required to apply a decision of its constitutional court that violates the law of the Union

On 26 september 2024, the Court of Justice of the EU, in its judgment "Energotehnica" (<u>G-792/22</u>), held that Union law precludes the law of a Member State which, according to its Constitutional court, makes an administrative court's ruling on an accident at work final for the criminal court when that law prevents the victim's family members from being heard. The ruling is a response to the preliminary reference by which the Braşov Court of Appeal (Romania) had questioned the Court on the compatibility with European Union law on worker safety of the Romanian law under which, as interpreted by the Constitutional Court, the administrative judge's decision prevents a reassessment of the facts by the criminal court. In the present case, the administrative judge had found that the death of an electrician from electrocution in the course of an intervention did not constitute a consequence of a work-related accident, nullifying the administrative sanctions imposed on the employer and precluding according to the interpretation of the domestic legislation - the criminal judge from ruling on the point. The CJEU ruling thus intervenes in terms of guaranteeing the right to an effective remedy, recalling that it includes the right to be heard: if, therefore, a court makes a decision on civil liability without allowing interested parties - in this case, the victim's family members - to present their arguments, this right is violated and national judges must be able to refrain from following a Constitutional Court decision without risking disciplinary sanctions.

CJEU: clarification of the conditions under which arrest warrants issued by the United Kingdom can be executed in the European Union

On 29 July 2024, in the judgement about the "Alchaster" case (C-202/204), which concerned the reference for a preliminary ruling made by the Irish Supreme Court in proceedings concerning the execution of arrest warrants issued by the United Kingdom against a person accused of terrorist offenses, held that the judicial authorities of the Member States asked to execute such a warrant must carry out an independent examination of the risk of violation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU that the person concerned alleges he or she would incur in the event of surrender to the United Kingdom. The surrender mechanism provided for in the Trade and Cooperation Agreement, concluded between the European Union and the United Kingdom to regulate their relations after Brexit, differs from that provided for in the Framework Decision on European Arrest Warrants.



OUR ACTIVITIES



Webcast Series and new (Hybrid) Training Lecture Series



Six episodes of the Webcast Series dedicated to the topic of the EU and produced with the input of phd candidates and students were released. The episodes specifically cover the topics of European citizenship, threats to the EU, European citizens' initiative, forms of expressing the voice of European citizens, and security in the EU.

On **4 October 2024**, the **(Hybrid) Training Lecture Series** will resume with the seminar "**Cyber-security trends and legal issues in International and European Law**" which will be introduced by Prof. Teresa Russo and Prof. Rossana Palladino and will host lectures by Prof. Annita Larissa Sciacovelli and Dr. Annachiara Rotondo.

Seminar for Phd Candidates: "Judicial Cooperation in the European Space: Perspectives and Practices"

On September 30, 2024, the seminar "Judicial Cooperation in the European Space: Perspectives and Practices" took place, exclusively for students of the PhD program in Legal Sciences. The event featured presentations by **Professors Rossana Palladino, Teresa Russo**, and **Professor Francesco Buonomenna**. During the seminar, the speakers offered a comprehensive overview of the concept of **judicial cooperation within the European Union**, with a particular focus on both **criminal and civil law**. Key issues related to the practical application of these mechanisms were examined, highlighting the crucial role of collaboration between Member States in ensuring the effective administration of justice at a transnational level. The discussion also addressed the current and future challenges, with an analysis of recent legislative developments, available legal tools, and possible reforms aimed at improving cooperation between European judicial authorities.

Book - "Il principio di proporzionalità nel diritto dell'Unione europea. Natura, funzioni e controllo"

In June 2024, the **volume "Il principio di proporzionalità nel diritto dell'Unione europea**. Natura, funzioni e controllo" edited by Professor Rossana Palladino was published, **as EU-Draw scientific output**. The book delves into aspects inherent to the principle of proportionality, enshrined in Article 5(4) of the <u>Treaty on European Union</u> and explained in its application criteria by <u>Protocol No. 2</u> annexed to the Treaties. In particular the author focuses three aspects of the operation of the principle of proportionality, highlighting its functions of regulating the action of the European institutions, of limiting the margin of discretion of the EU Member States and of constitutive limit to the compression of fundamental rights.



About: EU-DRAW is an EU-funded project aiming to promote didactic and study activities, knowledge, and research on the themes of European citizenship, the rights and duties connected to it, as well as on the common rights and values, and on effective actions to assure democracy and the rule of law within the EU, including the EU external action. EU-DRAW will run for 3 years (2022-2025).



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