



Annual Conference of the
European Forum of the Legal Professions

Protecting Legal Professionals and Safeguarding Justice Systems

Integrity, Cybersecurity, and Personal Protection

Brussels & Online, 16 November 2026
(9:15-17:30 CET)



ABOUT THE STAKEHOLDERS:

The **European Network of Councils for the Judiciary (ENCJ)** unites the national institutions in the Member States of the European Union which are independent of the executive and legislature, and which are responsible for the support of the Judiciaries in the independent delivery of justice.

The **Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)**, founded in 1960, is an international non-profit association which has been, since its creation, at the forefront of advancing the views of European lawyers and defending the legal principles upon which democracy and the rule of law are based.

The **European Association of Judges (EAJ)** is one of the four regional groups of the International Association of Judges. The IAJ was founded in Salzburg (Austria) in 1953. It is a professional, non-political, international organisation, bringing together national associations of judges, not individual judges, approved by the Central Council for admission to the Association.

The **Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)** is an organisation founded in the year 2000. Its membership comprises national associations, representing administrative judges from Member States of the European Union and the Council of Europe and individual members, being administrative judges from those countries in which such associations do not exist.

ACA-Europe is a European association composed of the Court of Justice of the European Union as well as the Councils of State and the supreme administrative jurisdictions of each of the members of the European Union.

The **Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the Member States** was formed in 2004. It provides a forum through which European institutions are given an opportunity to request the opinions of Supreme Courts and to bring them closer by encouraging discussion and the exchange of ideas.

The **European Union of Judicial Officers (UEHJ)** is an international association created in 2016 in close coordination with the International Union of Judicial Officers. UEHJ aims to represent, promote and ensure the interests of the judicial officers within the (candidate) member states of the European Union. The association includes 22 member and 2 observer member countries.

The **European Union of Rechtspfleger (EUR)** is an association of 14 professional organisations from 13 states of the European Union. The objective is to improve the effectiveness and proximity of justice and to harmonise legal systems. For this purpose, the EUR has developed a model of a European profession, which is based on the professions of Rechtspfleger that were originally created in Germany and Austria.

The **Council of Notariats of the European Union (CNUE)** is the official body representing the notarial profession in dealings with the European institutions. The CNUE brings together the notariats of the 22 Member States familiar with this institution: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain. The notariats of Albania, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, the Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine are observer members. The CNUE represents more than 50,000 notaries and 200,000 staff.

CONTENT

The 5th annual conference organised by ERA under the auspices of the European Forum of the Legal Professions, an inter-professional platform for structured dialogue among the representatives of legal professions in Europe. Here, common challenges and concerns can be addressed and joint positions formulated. Hosted by the Council of the Notariats of the European Union (CNUE) in Brussels on 16 November 2026, the event brings together leading representatives of European legal and judicial organisations to address the growing threats facing legal professionals and the justice systems they uphold.

Against a backdrop of declining respect for the rule of law, rising digital risks, and increasing pressure on the independence of the judiciary, the conference will examine three interconnected challenges: the physical and personal protection of judges, lawyers, and other justice professionals; cybersecurity and data protection within justice systems; and the integrity of European justice institutions in the face of political pressure, corruption, and public trust deficits.

Through a keynote address, scene-setting presentations, and three dedicated roundtables, participants will explore topics including the Luxembourg Convention, harassment of justice professionals, digital sovereignty, the use of AI in justice, judicial appointment procedures, and the threat of infiltration by criminal organisations. The event aims to foster cross-professional dialogue and identify best practices that can strengthen the resilience and independence of justice systems across Europe.



www.euflp.eu

Programme

Monday, 16 November 2026



08:45 Registration

09:15 **Welcoming words**

Jean-Philippe Rageade, Director of ERA

Vincent Tilman, Secretary General of CNUE

09:30 **Keynote**

The decreasing respect for authority and law

TBC

10:00 **Setting the scene**

The integrity of justice

José Igreja Matos Judge of the Portuguese Supreme Court, President of CCJE

Cybersecurity risks for justice systems

TBC

Threats and intimidation – judges under pressure

Beti Hohler, Judge at the International Criminal Court

10:45 Discussion

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 **Roundtable: Personal safety of legal professionals**

Moderated by **Dorota Zabłudowska**, EAJ

Brian O'Moore, ENCJ

Marc Schmitz, UIHJ

Speaker nominated by CCBE

Speaker nominated by NADAL

12:50 Lunch break

14:10 **Roundtable: The integrity of the justice system**

Moderated by **Cosita Delvaux**, Public Notary in Luxembourg

Astrid Bode, judge at the Court of Appeal of Naumburg, Member of the Presidium of the Deutscher Richterbund

Manuel Ramos Soares, Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice of Portugal

Walter Szöky, Rechtspfleger, President of E.U.R.

Roman Završek, Slovenian lawyer, president of CCBE

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 **Roundtable: Cybersecurity and data protection**

Magda Fasilaki, Associate Councillor of the Hellenic Council of State

Germana Lo Sapio, Judge at the Regional Administrative Court of Naples

Aurélie Van der Perre, Head of Privanot

17:00 **The European Cybersecurity Strategy**

Henna Virkkunen, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission

17:25 **Closing remarks**

Vincent Tilman, CNUE

Viktor Vadász, Deputy Director and Director of Programmes of ERA

17:30 End of the Conference



Times indicated are CET
(Central European Time)

PARTNERS



European Network of Councils
for the Judiciary (ENCJ)
Réseau européen des Conseils
de la Justice (RECJ)



NETWORK OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE SUPREME JUDICIAL COURTS
OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
RÉSEAU DES PRÉSIDENTS
DES COURS SUPRÊMES JUDICIAIRES
DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE



Who should attend

Judges, prosecutors, court staff, judicial officers, private lawyers, EU officials, journalists

Fee

Participation onsite: 150 EUR (incl. Catering)
Participation online: 0 EUR

Venue

Council of the Notariats of the European Union
Avenue de Cortenbergh, 120, 1000 Brussels

Language

English

Event Number

026D031

Hybrid format

Online participants can take the floor or address written questions to the panel through a live chat in Zoom. The link will be provided after registration.

Contact



Viktor Vadász
Deputy Director
Director of Programmes
E-Mail: vvadasz@era.int



Julia Käfer
Assistant
E-Mail: jkaefer@era.int

Registration



www.era.int/en/event-number/026D031