



UNIVERSITY OF  
LIVERPOOL



School of Law  
and Social Justice



## **Liverpool Summer School on the Law of the Council of Europe**

**Effectiveness of the Council of Europe in  
Tackling the Pressing Challenges:  
Exploring the Execution of ECtHR Judgments  
and the Complexities of Migration.**

7-18 July 2025

Liverpool

For over 75 years, the Council of Europe unites Europe around the values of democracy, human rights and the rule of law. In 2025, the participants of the Summer School will debate whether the Council of Europe is successful in its mission. The aim of the summer school is twofold.

Firstly, the experts will assess the effectiveness of execution of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights and other bodies of the Council of Europe. Secondly, the Summer School will also address the pressing challenges of migration, a critical legal and political issue facing every European state. Discussions will examine the Council of Europe's role in protecting the rights of migrants, analysing relevant legal standards, policies, and the responsibilities of member states in this context.

The course will feature insights from key decision-makers within the Council of Europe, leading academics, and other stakeholders. Through these discussions, participants will gain a comprehensive understanding of the Council of Europe, its effectiveness in protecting human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The participants will gain the knowledge necessary for research, effective advocacy, implementation and public policy design.

*Welcome from the Organisers*

We are delighted to welcome you to the School of Law and Social Justice at the University of Liverpool. This is the third Summer School on the Law of the Council of Europe to be held in Liverpool, although the University has a long-standing connection with both the Council of Europe and the European Court of Human Rights. It is often forgotten that the first President of the European Court was a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool – Lord McNair.

Through this Summer School, we seek to uphold and continue the University's tradition of collaboration with the Council of Europe. We hope that you will enjoy your two weeks with us, taking part in exciting and intellectually stimulating classes, building professional networks, and making lasting friendships.

Liverpool is a multicultural and welcoming city – we hope you will come to love it as much as we do. While we cannot promise sunshine for the duration of the Summer School, we trust the experience will be a rewarding one.

The organising team (in alphabetical order):

*Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou*

*Olaf Köndgen*

*Michele Nicoletti*

*Vassilis Tzevelekos*

For all organisational issues please contact:

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## Summer School Programme

### 7 July

10:00 Registration (tea/coffee)

11:00 Welcome Address

*Prof Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou*

*Dr Olaf Köndgen*

*Dr Vassilis Tzevelekos*

11:30 Key-note address:

*Chair: Prof Amandine Garde*

The Implementation of Strasbourg Court Judgments at National Level – Subsidiarity in Action

*The Rt Hon Lord Hermer KC*

12:30 Lunch Break

14:30 Key-note addresses:

*Chair: Dr Katie Johnson*

The Steady Compass: The Role of the Court in Turbulent Times

*Mr Bjørn Berge*

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 Panel discussion

*Chair: Dr Katie Johnson*

The Role of the Council of Europe in a Rapidly Changing World

*Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos*

*Prof Michele Nicoletti*

17:30 Welcome Reception

18:30 End of the Day

## **8 July**

9:30 A View from Strasbourg: Q&A with the United Kingdom's Legal Counsellor to the Council of Europe

*Mr Daniel Breger*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Execution of the Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights

*Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Placing Social Rights and Social Justice at the Heart of Europe: An Introduction to the European Social Charter

*Prof Aoife Nolan*

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 The Implementation of the Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights: Recent Challenges and the Role of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

*The Rt Hon. Lord Keen of Elie PC KC*

17:00 Social Event: Introduction of the Participants

19:00 End of the Day

## **9 July**

9:30 Migration and the European Social Charter

*Prof Aoife Nolan*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Migration, Human Rights, and the Council of Europe

*Mr David Milner*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Book Launch: Russia, the Council of Europe and the European Convention on Human Rights. A Troubled Membership and Its Legacy

*Chair Dr Amanda Cabill-Ripley*

*Prof Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou and Dr Andrew Forde*

15:30 Liverpool City Walking Tour.

17:30 End of the Day

## **10 July**

9:30 Monitoring Places of Deprivation of Liberty - Theory and Practice

*Mr Hugh Chetwynd and Dr Julia Kozma*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Migration, Human Rights, and the Council of Europe

*Mr David Milner*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Article 3 in the Migration-Related Case-Law of the Court

*Judge Mykola Gnatovskyy*

15:30 Feedback session

16:00 Liverpool Boat Tour.

18:30 End of the Day

## **11 July**

9:30 Interviewing Persons Deprived of Their Liberty - Practical Exercises

*Mr Hugh Chetwynd and Dr Julia Kozma*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Article 46 of the Convention: Evolution of the Court's Case-Law and Potential for Its Further Development

*Judge Mykola Gnatovskyy*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Bringing Human Rights Home: Technical Co-operation and Shaping National Human Rights Agenda

*Mr Sergei Dikman*

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 Book Launch: Human Rights: The Case for the Defence

*Chair Dr Vassilis Tzevelekos*

*The Rt Hon Baroness Chakrabarti*

17:30 End of the Day

## **14 July**

9:30 An Introduction to the Work of the Venice Commission and Its Changing Role Over the Past 30 Years

*Judge Martin Kuijer*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 The Core Rights of Migrants at the Border under International Human Rights Law

*Prof Vincent Chetail*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 The Impact of Protocols No 15 and 16 on the Convention System and Execution of Judgments

*Ms Patricia Zimmermann*

15:30 Feedback session.

16:00 End of the Day

## **15 July**

9:30 The *Acquis* of the Venice Commission in Times of Rule of Law Backsliding: Examples in the Field of Migration

*Judge Martin Kuijer*

11:00 Coffee Break

12:00 The UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and Its Relevance for the European Court of Human Rights and the Council of Europe

*Prof Vincent Chetail*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Turning Judgments into Rights: Civil Society's Role in Ensuring Effective Implementation of ECtHR Judgments

*Ms Ioulietta Bisiouli*

15:30 Coffee Break

17:00 Open Lecture: Benchmarks: Two Common Law Judicial Systems Divided by History

Chair: *Prof Fiona Beveridge*

*Judge Wendy Beetlestone*

*Judge Mark Cawson KC*

18:30 End of the Day

## **16 July**

9:30 Addressing Execution of Judgments Issues through Co-operation Projects

*Mr Tigran Karapetyan*

11:00 Coffee Break

12:00 Compliance with Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights: From Theory to Practice

*Dr Pavlo Pushkar*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 Migrant Workers' Rights and Structural Challenges

*Dr Maayan Niezina*

15:30 End of the Day

## **17 July**

9:30 Addressing Execution of Judgments Issues through Co-operation Projects

*Mr Tigran Karapetyan*

11:00 Coffee Break

11:30 Russia's Accountability for Gross and Serious Human Rights Breaches: the War of Aggression against Ukraine and Perspectives of International Law

*Dr Pavlo Pushkar*

13:00 Lunch Break

14:00 The Externalisation of Immigration Control between Strasbourg and Luxembourg

*Prof Valsamis Mitsilegas*

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 Judicial Communication Strategies

*Ms Rachel Kondak*

17:30 End of the Day

## **18 July**

10:00 Closing ceremony

Chair *Prof Fiona Beveridge*

Keynote Address

Judges as Guardians of Democracy

*President Mattias Guyomar*

11:30 Coffee Break

12:00 Award of Certificates

*Prof Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou and Dr Vassilis Tzevelekos*

13:00 Lunch Break



### Summer School Speakers (in alphabetical order):

**Wendy Beetlestone** is a United States district judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. She began her legal career as a law clerk for Judge Robert S. Gawthrop III, of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, from 1993 to 1994. From 1994 to 2002, she worked at the law firm of Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis, LLP, becoming a partner in 2001. From 2002 to 2005, she served as general counsel of the School District of Philadelphia. From 2005 to 2014, she had been a shareholder at the law firm of Hangle, Aronchick, Segal, Pudlin & Schiller, where she litigated a variety of commercial matters before both Federal and State courts. In 2023, she was announced as the next chancellor of the University of Liverpool. She is the University's eleventh chancellor and the institution's first female and first black chancellor.

**Bjørn Berge** serves as the Council of Europe's Deputy Secretary General since 1 March 2021. As the Deputy Secretary General he is involved in a number of key areas of the work of the Organisation, including advising and overseeing the implementation of the Secretary General's reform agenda, in line with the decisions and priorities of the Committee of Ministers. His priorities include shaping the Programme and Budget, while ensuring that the Organisation's activities have maximum impact in advancing democracy, human rights and the rule of law. He also oversees the Council of Europe's staff policy, as well as other key areas of the work of the Organisation.

Before taking up his post, Mr Berge was for a period of four years Director General and Secretary to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Between 2009-2017, he served as Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General, helping to prepare, co-ordinate and implement a number of comprehensive reforms of the Organisation.

Mr Berge has over thirty years of international professional experience. As a former Norwegian diplomat, he served as International Adviser to the Prime Minister and as Deputy Director of the Foreign Minister's Cabinet responsible for all matters related to Parliament. He also served as speechwriter to three Norwegian Foreign Ministers.

Mr Berge has published several books on a range of issues relating to speech writing and speeches, as well as articles on the Council of Europe's mandate and work. He was a Fulbright Scholar and holds a M.A. in International Relations from the Paul Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University, Washington D.C., USA.

**Fiona Beveridge** is Executive Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University of Liverpool, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. She specialises in EU Social law, especially gender equality. Fiona's work focuses on law and policy-making processes and the ways in which gender equality concerns can be addressed in these areas. She has a particular expertise in gender mainstreaming (that is, the idea that gender concerns should be addressed systematically in all areas and by all actors), and how this is implemented in international institutions, the EU, and in individual states. In the UK this approach is best exemplified by the public sector equality duty, now contained in the Equality Act 2010. Fiona has published extensively in this area, with articles on gender mainstreaming in the devolved parts of the UK, in international trade institutions, in the process of accession to the EU, as well as within the EU's own policymaking processes. She is particularly interested in the interaction between 'soft' policy and 'hard' law in the equality field. In 2015, she produced (with Cengiz) a report for the European Parliament women's Rights Committee on a Gender Budgeting Methodology for the EU: The EU Budget for Gender Equality.

**Ioulietta Bisiouli** joined European Implementation Network in her quality as EIN Director as of 7th August 2023. Ioulietta is an attorney-at-law and a member of the Athens Bar Association. She holds a Master's Degree in Public International Law from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, having specialised in the protection of human rights. Ioulietta has extensive working experience in the human rights field, having previously worked at: the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI); the Council of Europe Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights; the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights; the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg; and the Amnesty International European Institutions Office as the Executive Officer for the Council of Europe (ad interim). She also has significant experience as a freelance consultant, having advised grassroots and international non-governmental organisations on international human rights standards.

**Daniel Breger** originally trained and practiced as a criminal Barrister in London before joining Government in 2013. His career has focused on international justice and human rights – a key part of his current role as legal counsellor for the UK Delegation to the Council of Europe. He has also worked as a lawyer at the War Crimes Tribunal in Cambodia and with a criminal justice NGO in the West Bank. He is on a posting from the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, where he has advised on a range of complex, high-profile international law issues, and previously worked as a lawyer for the Home Office.

**Mark Cawson KC** is a Specialist Circuit Judge based in Manchester. He is authorised to sit in all the courts of the Business and Property Courts, as well as in the Administrative Court and the Upper Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber). He was called to the Bar in 1982, and practiced from Chambers in Manchester and London until 2020, having taken Silk in 2001. His practice encompassed a broad range of Chancery and commercial work. He was Junior of the Northern Circuit in 1987, Chair of the Northern Circuit Commercial Bar Association between 2008 and 2013, and Chair of the Northern Chancery Bar Association between 2013 and 2020.

He was appointed as an Assistant Recorder in 1998, and a Recorder in 2000, initially sitting on Crime. He was subsequently appointed as a Deputy High Court Judge in 2004, authorised to sit in the Chancery and Queen's Bench Divisions. He was appointed as a Specialist Circuit Judge, sitting in the Business and Property Courts in Manchester, with effect from 30 November 2020.

**Amanda Cahill-Ripley** is a Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Liverpool and a Visiting Fellow at Lancaster University. Dr Cahill-Ripley is an expert in international human rights law. Her research focuses on economic, social and cultural rights and human rights in conflict affected settings including transitional and transformative justice and peacebuilding. Her second monograph, *Socio-Economic Rights in Times of Crisis and Normality - Article 4 Limitations under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* will be published by BUP in September and is reviewed as, 'An essential, insightful and rigorous study on limitations of socio-economic rights in crisis and normality—conceptually sharp, doctrinally vital' – Prof. Ludovic Hennebel, Vice President of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Professor in Law at the Law School of Aix-en-Provence.

Amanda has worked with a number of international organisations and NGOs including the UN OHCHR and advised both the Northern Ireland Assembly and the Scottish Parliament on economic and social rights at a domestic level. She is currently working with the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on drafting the new General Comment on the Application of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Situations

of Armed Conflict. Her third monograph on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and Transformative Peacebuilding, will be published by CUP in 2026

**Shami Chakrabarti CBE PC** is a barrister, human rights campaigner and Labour Peer who has written and broadcast widely over recent decades. She is the President of Birkbeck, University of London. She was Shadow Attorney General for England and Wales from 2016 to 2020 and Director of Liberty (The National Council for Civil Liberties) from 2003 to 2016. She is the author of three Penguin (Allen Lane) books: *On Liberty* (2014), *Of Women* (2017) and *Human Rights - The Case for the Defence* (2024).

**Vincent Chetail** is Professor of International Law and Director of the Global Migration Centre. He held research positions at Harvard Law School, King's College London and European University Institute, and has taught at various other universities, such as Sciences Po Paris, Queen Mary University, Queen's University of Belfast, or University Paris Pantheon-Assas.

An internationally recognised authority on migration, displacement and international law, Prof Chetail regularly serves as a consultant and advisor to governments, NGOs and international organisations (including AU, EU, OAS, UNITAR, UNHCR, IOM, WHO). As an independent expert, he has been notably involved in the drafting of several international instruments, such as the African Union Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons, and has authored the first report of the WHO documenting national migration policies in times of Covid-19.

His work is frequently referred to by the media, governments, courts and the United Nations. He was awarded 20 research grants from different funding agencies and he has published over 20 books and 70 articles on different topical issues related to human rights, migration, refugee protection, collective security, armed conflicts, criminal justice and legal history.

Prof Chetail is General Editor of two book series *Theory and Practice of Public International Law* (Martinus Nijhoff, Leiden/Boston) and *Organisation internationale et relations internationales* (Bruylant, Brussels), as well as Emeritus Editor-in-Chief of the *Refugee Survey Quarterly* (Oxford University Press) and a member of several editorial boards (including *Cambridge Asylum and Migration Studies*; *Jus Gentium: Journal of International Legal History*).

He is a member of the governing board for several academic institutions and non-governmental organisations and has exercised different directory positions, as for instance President of the Geneva Academy (2019-2024), Head of the Graduate Institute Master in interdisciplinary studies (2009-2012) or Vice-President of the French-speaking Network of International Law (2007-2012).

**Hugh Chetwynd** has been working at the Council of Europe for more than 30 years. From 2024 to current: Executive Secretary of the CPT (European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment) and Head of the Department for the Deprivation of liberty, Directorate of Human Rights, Council of Europe

From 2005 to 2024: Head of Division at the CPT Secretariat assessing the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty in 47 countries (particular responsibility for the countries of the Mediterranean, the western Balkans and UK/Ireland and Türkiye); he has worked on a number of thematic issues such as solitary confinement, life-sentenced prisoners, women in prison, immigration detention, combatting police impunity and children in detention as well as persons held in psychiatric establishments. He also contributed to the revision of the European Prison Rules of 2020.

From 2002-2005: Head of the Council of Europe's Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working notably in fields of criminal justice, human rights and education, and constitutional reform.

From 1993-2002: Council of Europe programme manager working on criminal justice reform and local democracy issues, abolition of the death penalty in Europe and training of legal professionals on the European Convention on Human Rights in the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe.

2017 -2021: Expert on Consultative Council for the Trinity College-led research project "Prisons: the Rule of Law, Accountability and Rights —PRILA".

**Sergei Dikman** is an Adviser on strategic co-operation development at the Human Rights Directorate of the Council of Europe. For more than 10 years, he has been designing and overseeing initiatives aimed at strengthening national human rights implementation in different parts of the Council of Europe space and in European neighbourhood. In 2021-2023 he has served as a focal point on the abolition of the death penalty at the Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law.

**Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou** is Professor in Human Rights Law and Associate Dean for Research of the School of Law and Social Justice. He joined University of Liverpool in 2015, having previously worked at the University of Surrey (UK), University College Dublin (Ireland) and Gomel State University (Belarus). Kanstantsin is an author of three books and over a hundred of academic articles, review pieces and comments. He published in leading peer-reviewed journals such as *Legal Studies*, *Human Rights Law Review*, *International and Comparative Law Review* and many others. He cooperates with international inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations as an expert in international and European human rights law. His research interests spread between interpretation of the European Convention of Human Rights, reform of the European Court of Human Rights, administration of international justice, comparative and constitutional law. Kanstantsin is a co-founder and co-editor-in-chief of the *European Convention on Human Rights Law Review*. Kanstantsin is director of the International Law and Human Rights Unit.

**Andrew Forde** is Assistant Professor of European Human Rights Law at Dublin City University (DCU) and Commissioner on the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC). He worked for more than 10 years with the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe as Human Rights Advisor to the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights and Political Advisor with a particular focus on human rights in conflict-affected regions. During this time he led Council of Europe operations in Kosovo for 5 years. In recent years he has served as a senior official in the Irish civil service. His first book *European Human Rights Grey Zones - The Council of Europe and Areas of Conflict* was published in April 2024 by Cambridge University Press and his second, co-authored book on Russia's relationship with the Council of Europe was published in February.

**Amandine Garde** is a Professor of Law at the University of Liverpool in the UK and a qualified solicitor. Her expertise lies at the crossroads of European Union, consumer protection, public health, and trade law and policy, and she has published extensively on the relationship between these sub-disciplines of law. In 2015, she established the Law & Non-Communicable Diseases Research Unit, which advises international organisations, civil society, public health agencies and governments on the effective regulation of the commercial determinants of health to promote better health for all. In particular, she has worked closely with the WHO (where she was seconded as part of an ESRC-funded Impact Follow on grant in 2013), Unicef and the European Union for whom she has written policy reports and developed legal capacity building courses on the

prevention of NCDs, and food, alcohol and tobacco marketing more specifically. She sits on various advisory groups of civil society organisations working for the prevention of chronic diseases in the UK and beyond. She is a member of The Lancet-Chatham House Commission on Improving Population Health (2020-2023) and was founding president of the Law and Public Health section of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA) from 2021 to 2024. She is also an honorary member of the UK Faculty of Public Health. She was a Co-investigator of the UKPRP-funded PETRA Network on Trade and Health (2019-2023) and is currently Principal Investigator of a three-year NIHR-funded project (£825,000) on navigating trade challenges at the WTO Technical Barriers to Trade Committee (2023-2026).

**Christos Giakoumopoulos** was Director General for Human Rights and the Rule of Law in the Council of Europe until his retirement in August 2024. Before 2017 he exercised as Director for Human Rights, Director of Monitoring, Legal Counsel of the Council of Europe Development Bank and Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights, Alvaro Gil Robles. From 1987 to 2002 he worked as a legal officer in the European Court (and Commission) of Human Rights and was Deputy Executive Secretary of the Venice Commission (European Commission for Democracy through Law). In the period 2014-2016 he was Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Ukraine. Before joining the Council of Europe in 1987, he was lawyer at the Athens Bar and worked as legal adviser for the Greek Ministry of Labour in Athens and in Düsseldorf.

**Mykola Gnatovskyy** is judge of the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Ukraine since June 2022. He holds LL.M. (1999) and Ph.D. (2002) in International Law. He has published extensively on European and international human rights law, as well as international humanitarian law and international criminal law. He taught at the Institute of International Relations of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv between 2002 and 2022. He was also a visiting professor at the Ukrainian Catholic University (2017–2020) and has delivered numerous occasional lectures at various universities in Ukraine and worldwide. In 2009–2021 he was a member of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) and served as its Vice-President (2013–2015) and President (2015–2021). He is also First Vice-President of the Ukrainian Association of International Law and has been a member of editorial boards of international law journals and yearbooks published in several European countries.

**Mattias Guyomar** is the President of the European Court of Human Rights. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Modern Literature from the University of Nantes and is a laureate of the Institute of Political Studies (Sciences Po), Paris. He later graduated from the prestigious National School of Administration (ENA) in 1996.

Mr Guyomar began his career as a rapporteur at the Judicial Division of the Conseil d'État. Over the years, he held numerous key positions within the French administrative judiciary and government, including Director of the Legal Documentation and Coordination Centre of the Conseil d'État, Secretary General of the French Electoral Commission (1998–2020), and Government Commissioner and Public Rapporteur at the Administrative Judicial Division.

He has also made significant academic contributions, serving as a lecturer at the IEP (Paris) and ENA, and as Associate Professor of Public Law at both the University Paris-Sud XI and the University Paris 2 – Panthéon-Assas.

In June 2020, he was elected Judge of the European Court of Human Rights. He served as President of a Section of the Court from 2 May 2024 until 29 May 2025 and assumed office as President of the Court on 30 May 2025.

**Richard Hermer KC** was appointed Attorney General on 5 July 2024. Richard Hermer KC was called to the Bar in 1993 and he took silk in 2009. He was previously Head of Chambers at Matrix and has served as a Deputy High Court Judge.

**Katie Johnston** is a lecturer in Law at the School of Law and Social Justice of the University of Liverpool. Katie joined the Liverpool Law School as a Lecturer in 2022. Katie's primary area of research is public international law, with particular interests in the law on the use of force (*jus ad bellum*) and the sources of international law. In addition to general international law, Katie's research interests include international human rights law; international organisations law; and the interaction of international law with UK and Northern Ireland public and constitutional law. Her research has been published in leading international peer-reviewed journals, including the *European Journal of International Law* and *ICLQ*.

**Tigran Karapetyan** is the Head of Transversal Challenges and Multilateral Projects Division of the Council of Europe's Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Co-operation Standards. He works in the CoE since 2013. He is an experienced lawyer with considerable experience in leading projects in the field of Human Rights, Rule of Law, Good Governance and Democracy. Prior to joining the Council of Europe, Mr Karapetyan led the democratisation and good governance programming for the OSCE in Ukraine and before that served as a legal and project management expert for various international organisations. Preceding his work in international development, he also worked extensively as an in-house lawyer and a legal consultant in the commercial sector.

**Richard Keen PC KC** is a distinguished British lawyer and Conservative politician with a long-standing career at the intersection of law and public service. He was called to the Scottish Bar in 1980 and took silk in 1993. Lord Keen has appeared regularly before the UK Supreme Court and was involved in numerous high-profile cases. He served as Dean of the Faculty of Advocates (2007–2014), Chairman of the Scottish Conservative Party (2014–2015), and Advocate General for Scotland (2015–2020), holding ministerial roles under three Prime Ministers. A Life Peer since 2015, he was sworn into the Privy Council in 2017 and has played a prominent role in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, where he currently serves as Chair of the Legal Affairs and Human Rights Committee. In July 2024, he was appointed to the Shadow Front Bench in the House of Lords as Shadow Minister of Justice and Shadow Advocate General.

**Rachel Kondak** was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1997. She practised as a family law barrister at Queen Elizabeth Buildings in Middle Temple for seven years. In 2003 she lived in Warsaw and worked for the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. In 2004 she moved with her family to Strasbourg, France and a year later began working for the Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights.

In 2009 she joined the European Court of Human Rights' Research Division where she worked as a lawyer until 2018. As from 2018 she joined the President's Private Office within the Court as Advisor, Deputy Head and now Head of the Private Office. She is also in charge of the Court's Communication Department (Press, Public Relations and Visitors' Units).

**Olaf Köndgen** is an expert in Islamic criminal law. His doctoral thesis (University of Amsterdam, 2013) was titled "Islamic criminal legislation and Supreme Court case law in the Sudan under

Numairi and Bashir”. He is the author of several books and articles and he is associated with the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation projects in Egypt and Jordan (from 1993 till 2000). He has held various positions at the Council of Europe. Since 2020, he is Senior Project Manager of the Open Council of Europe Academic Networks, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law.

**Julia Kozma** holds a PhD in International Criminal Law and a Master’s Degree in Human Rights and Peace Support Operations in addition to her legal degree. She has more than twenty years of experience in monitoring places of detention. In 2004, she started as a monitor of police work in the framework of the Human Rights Advisory Board at the Austrian Interior Ministry. From 2005 until 2010 she worked for the mandate of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture, and participated in various fact-finding missions (Nepal, Jordan, Togo, Sri Lanka, Moldova, Uruguay, and Jamaica), as well as in the drafting of the UN Special Procedures’ report on Guantánamo Bay.

In December 2009 the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe elected her member of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) in respect of Austria; she was twice re-elected and has served the Committee for a total of twelve years. She has carried out 36 CPT missions and has visited countless police stations and prisons as well as other places of deprivation of liberty in diverse countries, and has contributed to shaping the CPT’s standards for persons deprived of their liberty. In 2022, she was elected member of the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT) and continues to monitor places of deprivation of liberty worldwide, primarily in Africa. Additionally, she is a lecturer in human rights and Master course responsible at the University of Strasbourg. She has broad teaching and training experience and has written diverse reports and publications on human rights and torture related issues.

**Martin Kuijer** is Vice-President of the Venice Commission and its member in respect of The Netherlands. He has served as a Justice of the Supreme Court of the Netherlands and a Member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration since 2020. He worked at the Netherlands Ministry of Justice and Security (2003-2019) as the head of the human rights department and as the chief Legal Adviser of the ministry. Between 2004 and 2019 he was a professor of human rights law at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

**David Milner** is currently Secretary to the Steering Committee for Human Rights and head of the Human Rights Intergovernmental Co-operation Division at the Council of Europe, where he has worked since 2002. During this time, he has also worked at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, including as secretary to the Committee on migration, refugees and displaced persons, where he prepared a number of reports on issues relating to the 2015 “migrant crisis”, secretary to the Committee on legal affairs and human rights, and adviser to the President of the Assembly. A barrister with a master’s degree in international relations and strategic studies, before coming to the Council of Europe he worked in private practice and as a legal officer in UK-based NGOs specialising in immigration and asylum law. He has published articles on international refugee law and various issues relating to the European Convention on Human Rights.

**Valsamis Mitsilegas** is Professor of European and Global Law and Dean of the School of Law and Social Justice at the University of Liverpool. He joined the University in September 2022 from Queen Mary University of London, where he held a number of senior leadership positions including Head of the Department of Law (2012-18), Dean for Research for the Humanities and Social Sciences (2017), University Academic Lead for Internationalisation (2017-18) and the University’s Dean for Europe and member of the University's Internationalisation Senior Leadership Team (2018-22). He served as the Inaugural President of Queen Mary (Paris), as the Inaugural Director of the Queen Mary Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, as a

member of the Leadership Team of the Queen Mary Global Policy Institute (GPI) and, for 11 years, as the Director of the Queen Mary Criminal Justice Centre (2011-22). Prior to joining Queen Mary, he served as legal adviser to the House of Lords European Union Committee (2001-05). His research explores the development of and intersection between European and Global Law and their impact on human rights, justice and the rule of law. Well-known for leading in the establishment of European Criminal Law as a distinct academic field, Professor Mitsilegas has also produced cutting-edge research in the fields of immigration, asylum and borders (including the criminalisation and securitisation of migration), security and human rights (including surveillance, privacy and the rule of law) and transnational and economic criminal law (including the emergence of a multi-level regime against organised crime and money laundering). He is the author of 9 books and over 150 articles and chapters and the curator of over 20 edited volumes in these fields. Recent books include the second edition of EU Criminal Law (Hart, 2022: EU Criminal Law, 2nd edition), The Legal Regulation of Environmental Crime (with Fitzmaurice, Fasoli and Giuffrida, Brill, 2022: The Legal Regulation of Environmental Crime) and Policing Humanitarianism (with Carrera, Allsopp and Vosyliute., Hart, 2019: Policing Humanitarianism).

**Michele Nicoletti** is Professor of Political Philosophy at the University of Trento and does research on the intertwining between ethics, political theory and human rights. 2013-2018 he was a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, where he was General Rapporteur of the High Level Conference on the European Social Charter (2015) and Rapporteur on a number of reports related to the European Asylum system, the fight against corruption and the future of the European institutions. From January to June 2018 he served as President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. During his mandate, he launched the Open Council of Europe Academic Network: a project for the coordination of major universities and academic institutions in the field of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

**Maayan Niezna** is a Lecturer at the University of Liverpool School of Law and Social Justice. Before joining the School, she was a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Modern Slavery and Human Rights at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights, University of Oxford. Her research focuses on trafficking for labour exploitation, the regulation of labour migration, and the rights of non-citizens. She previously worked at the Hotline for Refugees and Migrants-Israel, the Office of the National Anti-trafficking Coordinator, Israeli Ministry of Justice, UNHCR, and worked on issues concerning the rights of Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territories as a lawyer at Gisha-Legal Center for Freedom of Movement. Her work on trafficking and slavery has been cited by NGOs, policymakers, and courts in various countries.

**Aoife Nolan** is President of the Council of Europe's European Committee of Social Rights, which she joined in 2017, having served as Vice-President from 2021-22. She is also Professor of International Human Rights Law and Director of the Human Rights Law Centre at the University of Nottingham. Professor Nolan's professional experience in human rights and constitutional law straddles the legal, policy, practitioner and academic fields. Professor Nolan has acted as an expert advisor to several governments as well as a wide range of international and national organisations and bodies working on human rights issues, including numerous UN Special Procedures, UN treaty bodies, the Council of Europe, the World Bank multiple NHRIs and NGOs. She has held visiting positions at academic institutions in Europe, Africa, the US and Australia. In addition to her academic role at Nottingham, she is currently a Visiting Professor at the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, LSE, and at Ulster University. She is an Academic Expert member at Doughty Street Chambers where she co-leads the Children's Rights Group and is a member of the Doughty Street International steering group. In 2025, she was



elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts on the basis of her "world-leading expertise and practice on the rights of children, especially in relation to the socio-economic impacts of poverty and cost of living".

**Pavlo Pushkar** is a head of division at the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights of the Directorate General of Human Rights and the Rule of Law of the Council of Europe (since 2016). He recently provided advice to the Director General of the Human Rights and the Rule of Law on international accountability mechanisms, notably on the establishment of the International Register of damage caused by aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine. He joined the Council of Europe in 2002. He worked at the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights from 2002 to 2016 as a senior lawyer and a non-judicial rapporteur. Before joining the Council of Europe, he worked as an advocate in the areas of international litigation and arbitration and as a public servant at the Supreme Court of Ukraine. He also taught European Human Rights Law at the Kyiv Taras Shevchenko University.

Dr Pushkar is teaching the European Human Rights Law at the Ukrainian Catholic University of Lviv as well as courses on Responding to Human Rights Violations and on Interaction Between Different Systems of Human Rights Protection at the University of Strasbourg. He has a PhD in criminal justice and shortened and simplified procedures for settling criminal cases. He is a graduate of Kyiv Taras Shevchenko University Law Faculty (BA and MA in Laws, with honours); the Nottingham University School of Law (LLM in International Law); Queens Mary College University of London (International Arbitration). He is currently pursuing his honorary doctoral research in the area of international law compliance, notably compliance with the rulings of international courts and tribunals, under the auspices of the Lviv Ivan Franko National University.

**Vassilis Tzevelekos** is an academic and practitioner specialising in public international law and human rights protection, with a focus on the European Convention on Human Rights. He has published extensively in these areas. Currently, he is a reader at the University of Liverpool School of Law. Vassilis is qualified with the Athens' Bar Association. He is currently a member (having served as vice-chairperson) of the United Nations Human Rights Council Advisory Committee and as a member of the Council of Europe's CPT (the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment). He is the co-founder and co-editor-in-chief of The ECHR Law Review.

**Patricia Zimmermann** is the Head of the Ministry of Justice's (MoJ) Council of Europe Human Rights Team. She is responsible for the MoJ's international human rights policy objectives in relation to the Council of Europe and other international bodies. This includes but is not limited to matters relating to the European Court of Human Rights and the wider Convention system. She has acted as the UK liaison officer for visits from Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture, and United Nations Sub-Committee for the Prevention of Torture. She is also responsible for managing MoJ's interests on emerging issues such as Climate Change and the Environment.