



How to deal with the criticism of the European Court of Human Rights?

12 April 2012

10h00 Arrival and registration

Opening session

Chair: Professor Spyridon Flogaitis, Director of the European Public Law Organisation

11h00

Welcome by Professor Tom Zwart

Opening remarks by H.E. Ivo Opstelten, the Dutch Minister for Security and Justice

President Luzius Wildhaber, former President of the European Court of Human Rights: *How to deal with the case-overload at the European Court of Human Rights: The recommendations of the European Law Institute*

Paul Mahoney, former Registrar of the European Court of Human Rights: *Preserving the mission of the Court while ensuring the viability of the individual petition system*

Lord Kerr of Tonaghmore, Justice of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom: *The need for dialogue between national courts and Strasbourg*

12h30 Lunch in the Noenzaal

Panel I: Crisis, what crisis?

14h00

Judge Egbert Myjer, Member of the European Court of Human Rights: *Why much of the criticism on the Court is unfounded*

President Marc Bossuyt, President of the Constitutional Court of Belgium: *Is the Court on a slippery slope?*

Discussion

Discussant: Dr. Lucian Bojin, Lecturer at the Western University of Timisoara

15h30 Coffee and tea break

Panel II: The Court's own role

Chair: Judge Anita Ušacka, Judge at the International Criminal Court

16h00

*Professor Tom Zwart, Director of the Netherlands School of Human Rights Research: **How the Court can increase its legitimacy***

*Judge Wilhelmina Thomassen, former Member of the European Court of Human Rights: **The strengths and weaknesses of the Court***

Discussion

Discussant: Julie Fraser, research fellow at the Netherlands School of Human Rights Research

18h00 Drinks and dinner at Luden Restaurant (first floor), Plein 6-7, The Hague

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Chair: Professor Menno Kamminga, Chair of the Netherlands School of Human Rights Research

9h00 Coffee and tea

Panel III: The role of the Court vis-à-vis its environment

9h30

*Dr. Kanstantsin Dzehtsiarou, Lecturer at the University of Surrey: **The interaction between the Court and the States Parties***

*Nicole Bürli LL.M., Researcher at the University of Zürich: **Amicus briefs as a means for the Court to stay in touch with its environment***

Discussion

Discussant: Dr. Anton Burkov, Professor at the University of the Humanities, Yekaterinburg

11h00 Coffee and tea break

Closing session

11h30

*Professor Janneke Gerards, Professor at Radboud University Nijmegen, **Possible solutions proposed by the participants in the 'Friends of the Court' research project***

*Response: Judge András Sajó, Member of the European Court of Human Rights: **The road ahead for the European Court of Human Rights***

Discussion

Closing remarks

13h00 Lunch in the Noenzaal