



Copenhagen Conference on Democracy and the Rule of Law 4-5 December 2025, Copenhagen

Ceremonial Hall (Festsalen), University of Copenhagen

Programme

4 December 2025

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| 13.30 - 14.00 | Arrival and coffee |
| 14.00 - 14.10 | Welcome by Kristian Cedervall Lautau, Professor and Prorector of University of Copenhagen |
| 14.10 - 15.40 | High-level panel and keynotes: <i>Democracy and the rule of law in a new world order: What's at stake?</i>

<i>"Why our values matter"</i> by Marie Bjerre, Minister for European Affairs of Denmark

<i>"The Global Crisis of Democracy"</i> by Francis Fukuyama, Professor at Stanford University (by video)

<i>"Rise of illiberal democracy in Europe?"</i> by Jan-Werner Müller, Professor at Princeton University

<u>Moderator:</u> journalist Anna Ingrisch |
| 15.40 - 16.15 | Coffee break |
| 16.15 - 17.45 | High-level panel: <i>How can the EU better protect its democratic values?</i>

Michael McGrath , Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law and Consumer Protection
Koen Lenaerts , President of the European Court of Justice
Adam Bodnar , Professor at SWPS University, Warsaw, and former Minister of Justice of Poland

<u>Moderator:</u> journalist Anna Ingrisch |
| 17.45 - 18.00 | Sum-up by moderator |
| 18.00 - 19.00 | Reception and networking |



5 December 2025

09.30 - 10.00

Arrival and coffee

10.00 - 10.45

Conversation: *The role of the European Court of Justice in the face of democratic regression*

Keynote by Koen Lenaerts, President of the European Court of Justice, followed by conversation with Ulla Neergaard, Professor at Copenhagen University and Marlene Wind, Professor at Copenhagen University

10.45 - 12.15

Panel: *The democratic role and scope of the judiciary*

Zsuzsanna Végh, Program Officer, German Marshall Fund
Jakub Jaraczewski, Research Coordinator at Democracy Reporting International

Gabriel Toggenburg, Head of Charter, Rule of Law and Democracy Sector at Fundamental Rights Agency

Sabine Matejka, President, European Association of Judges and First Vice-President, International Association of Judges

Moderator: Professor Marlene Wind

12.15-13.15

Lunch

13.15-14.45

Panel: *The rule of law as a foundation of the EU's single market*

Alice Brokelind, Policy Officer for the Rule of Law in the Secretariat-General of the European Commission

Annemie Turtelboom, Member, European Court of Auditors

Andrew Hjulær Crichton, Secretary General, Danish Bar and Law Society

Jakob Ellemann-Jensen, Executive Vice President, Danish Chamber of Commerce and former Deputy Prime Minister of Denmark

Moderator: Professor Marlene Wind

14.45-15.00

Sum-up and conclusions by Professor Marlene Wind

15:00

End of conference