



FILOZOFICKÁ FAKULTA
Univerzita Komenského
v Bratislave

Projekt je financovaný
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v Slovenskej republike.



Katedra politológie

Pozvánka

Súdy a pandémie COVID-19

Inauguračný okrúhly stôl projektu *Talking Courts (Hovorme o súdoch)*

9.12.2022, 8.30 EST/13.30 GMT/14.30 CET/19.00 IST

Link na pripojenie cez MS Teams: <http://bit.ly/talkingcourtsinaugural>

Úvodný okrúhly stôl projektu "Hovorme o súdoch" ponúka priestor na výmenu skúseností s rozhodovaním prípadov súvisiacich s pandemiou COVID-19. Globálna perspektíva s rečníčkami a rečníkmi z krajín vrátane Indie, Slovenska a USA umožní unikátnu výmenu skúseností medzi rôznymi ústavnými systémami, ktoré však zdieľajú záväzok rešpektovať princípy demokracie, právneho štátu a nezávislosti súdnictva. Ktorým kľúčovým výzvam súdy v tomto období čelili a ako si s nimi poradili? Cieľom je zabezpečiť produktívnu výmenu perspektív aktérov zvnútra súdov.

Preklad (anglický a slovenský jazyk) bude zabezpečený a dostupný pre účastníčky a účastníkov, ktorí si stiahnu softvér MS Teams (bezplatne) do svojho počítača a pripoja sa s pomocou tohto softvéru.

MODERÁTORKA

Joelle Grogan, DPhil.

Senior výskumníčka, UK in a Changing Europe; Riaditeľka, The Good Lobby Profs

REČNÍČKY A REČNÍCI

Sudca David Campbell

Sudca, Federálny súd prvého stupňa pre obvod Arizona, USA

Sudca Matthew Cooper

Bývalý sudca, Najvyšší súd štátu New York, USA

Sudkyňa Ksenija Flack Makitan

Sudkyňa, Obchodný súd Varaždin, Chorvátsko

Sudca Debabrata Dash

Sudca, Vyšší súd štátu Orissa, India

JUDr. Ján Štiavnický, PhD.

Štátny radca, Ústavný súd Slovenskej republiky, SR

Doc. JUDr. Martin Vernarský, PhD.

Sudca, Ústavný súd Slovenskej republiky, SR

Úvodné slovo

Max Steuer, PhD.

Koordinátor, Talking Courts; odborný asistent, Univerzita Komenského v Bratislave (Katedra politológie) a O.P. Jindal Global University (Jindal Global Law School)

Courts and COVID-19: Cross-national perspectives *Talking Courts* Inaugural Roundtable

Partneri projektu

- CEELI Institute (<https://ceeliinstitute.org/>)
- Helsinský výbor pre ľudské práva na Slovensku (<https://helcom.sk/>)
- Olympiáda ľudských práv (www.olp.sk)
- UNESCO Katedra výchovy k ľudským právam Univerzity Komenského v Bratislave (<https://uniba.sk/o-univerzite/fakulty-a-dalsie-sucasti/unescohre/>)

O projekte

Cieľom projektu *Talking Courts* (*Hovorme o súdoch*) je priblížiť účely a výzvy súčasného súdnictva na Slovensku širokému publiku. Súdny sú často vnímané ako izolované od spoločnosti a ich rozhodnutia menej viditeľné než v prípade výkonnej a zákonodarnej moci. Súdny však majú nespochybniteľný vplyv na demokraciu prostredníctvom ich mandátu riešiť konflikty spôsobom, ktorý zabráni zmene režimu na autokraciu. Prostredníctvom platformy pre oficiálne a neformálne interakcie medzi sudkyňami a sudcami a rôznymi spoločenskými skupinami a s pomocou vzdelávacích materiálov pre študentky a študentov univerzít k úlohe súdnictva v demokratických režimoch, projekt *Talking Courts* dostane sudkyne a sudcov výraznejšie do popredia pozornosti ako kľúčových aktérov modernej demokracie. Webové stránky: https://fphil.uniba.sk/talkingcourts_sk/.



FACULTY OF ARTS
Comenius University
Bratislava

Department of Political Science

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Invitation

Courts and COVID-19:

Cross-national perspectives

Talking Courts Inaugural Roundtable

9.12.2022, 8.30 EST/13.30 GMT/14.30 CET/19.00 IST

MS Teams Joining Link: <http://bit.ly/talkingcourtsinaugural>

This opening roundtable to the 'Talking Courts' project aims to exchange experiences with adjudicating COVID-19-related cases since the outbreak of the pandemic. The global scope of the roundtable with speakers from several jurisdictions including India, Slovakia and the United States will enable a unique multi-directional learning experience between three very diverse constitutional systems, all of which are nevertheless committed to key principles of democracy, the rule of law and judicial independence. What were some of the major challenges courts have faced, and how did they address them? The aim is to achieve a cross-fertilization of 'insider' perspectives on the judiciary.

CHAIR

Dr. Joelle Grogan

Senior Researcher, UK in a Changing Europe; Co-Director, The Good Lobby Profs

SPEAKERS

Judge David Campbell

Senior Judge, United States District Court for the District of Arizona, USA

Justice Matthew Cooper

Former Judge, Supreme Court of New York, USA

Judge Ksenija Flack Makitan

Judge, Commercial Court Varaždin, Croatia

Justice Debabrata Dash

Judge, High Court of Orissa, India

Dr. Ján Štiavnický

Senior Advisor of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic, Slovakia

Judge Martin Vernarský

Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic, Slovakia

Opening remarks

Dr. Max Steuer

Project Coordinator, Talking Courts; Assistant Professor, Comenius University and Jindal Global Law School

Courts and COVID-19: Cross-national perspectives *Talking Courts* Inaugural Roundtable

Speaker information

Dr Joelle Grogan (Chair) is an expert in the rule of law and crisis governance, and working in the fields of EU law, emergency law, public law, and comparative constitutional law. She is Senior Researcher and leads the Research Team at UK in a Changing Europe, an independent think tank based at King's College London. She is also Research Fellow at the CEU Democracy Institute, Co-Director of The Good Lobby Profs, and creator of Sticky Tricky Law. She is the editor of *Routledge Handbook of Law and the COVID-19 Pandemic*, in addition to authoring a number of articles, reports and chapters on the governance during crisis. Joelle served as an advisor to the EESC on rule of law and the COVID-19 pandemic, and has provided expert evidence to the UK, French and European Parliaments.

Judge David Campbell is a Senior United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, having served on the Court since 2003. He currently chairs the U.S. Courts' Committee on International Judicial Relations. He previously chaired the U.S. Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, which oversees the work of the five Advisory Committees on the Federal Rules of Civil, Criminal, Bankruptcy, and Appellate Procedure and the Federal Rules of Evidence. He also chaired the Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure from 2011 to 2015, and served as a member of the committee from 2005 to 2011. Judge Campbell is a member of the American Law Institute and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He has worked with courts in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and Turkey on judicial case management and related topics, and has taught civil procedure and constitutional law at the Arizona State and Brigham Young University Law Schools. Following his graduation from the University of Utah Law School, he served as a law clerk for Justice William H. Rehnquist of the United States Supreme Court and Judge J. Clifford Wallace of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Judge Campbell worked as a commercial litigator with the Phoenix, Arizona law firm of Osborn Maledon before becoming a judge.

Justice Matthew F. Cooper retired as a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court at the end of 2021, having served for 21 years in the state judiciary. He is a graduate of Hobart College in Geneva, New York, where he received his B.A., *cum laude*, in 1974. Following two years as a VISTA volunteer with Bronx Legal Services, he attended Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C., where he earned his J.D. in 1979. Cooper went on to practice law in New York City for over 20 years, with his legal career focused on representing working people in union pre-paid legal services programs. In 2000, Cooper was elected to the New York City Civil Court. He was initially assigned to Criminal Court for three years before returning to hear civil matters. In 2008, he was appointed an Acting Supreme Court Justice. Two years later he was elected to the New York State Supreme Court. From 2009 until his retirement, Cooper presided over court parts that dealt exclusively with divorce and custody cases. Cooper has been a member of the New York County Lawyers Association, the New York City Bar Association Matrimonial Committee, and the New York State Bar Association Family and Matrimonial Law Section. He frequently lectures at CLEs and conferences, often focusing on children, child development and mental health issues. In addition to teaching lawyers and judges, Cooper has been an associate professor at New York Law School, having taught *Anatomy of a Divorce*, and an adjunct professor at CUNY's College for Worker Education, having taught introduction to the legal process. He also lectured regularly on divorce law and trial advocacy to classes at the University of Pennsylvania, Columbia University and New York University schools of law. During his time on the bench, Cooper served as Chair of the Board of Justices of the Supreme Court, First Judicial District, and on the executive board of the New York State and City Associations of Supreme Court Justices. Since his retirement from the bench, Cooper has had an active practice mediating and arbitrating divorce and family law cases involving both financial and child custody issues.

HMJ Debabrata Dash, son of late Harekrushna Dash and Bakulrani Dash. Born on 12th October, 1962 at Baripada. Had schooling in MKC High School, Baripada and passed in 1st Division. Graduated in

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Science with Physics (Hons.) in First Class from MPC College, Baripada in 1981. Passed LL.B. from Utkal University having studied from Mayurbhanj Law College in 1984. Enrolled as an advocate and joined practice at Baripada Bar under the able guidance of his late father Harekrushna Dash. After 18 years of practice, joined OSJS (Sr. Branch) as then it was on 03.02.2003 and posted as 2nd Addl. District & Sessions Judge, Cuttack. He has also served as District & Sessions Judge, Dhenkanal-Angul, Legal Remembrancer and Principal Secretary, Law, Government of Odisha, District & Sessions Judge, Khurda at Bhubaneswar and District & Sessions Judge, Ganjam at Berhampur. Elevated as Judge of the Orissa High Court on 29.11.2013.

Judge Ksenija Flack Makitan is a judge at Commercial court in Varaždin (Croatia) since 2002. She participated in introducing diverse digitalisation projects at the court. The Commercial court in Varaždin was often selected as the pilot court for testing e-services provided by Ministry of Justice and Public Administration for example: incorporation of limited liability companies electronically, e-case, e-communication etc. Her daily work consists mainly of civil litigation cases, bankruptcy cases and court registrar cases. For more than ten years she obtained duty of deputy president of the court, using that time to improve management skills. From October 2020 she introduced to the Commercial court in Varaždin remote judging using available platforms and continued to develop competencies in that area. She lectures on digitalisation processes in judiciary and was one of the judges who developed [Practical guidelines for remote judging](#) in Central and Eastern Europe published in 2021 by CEELI Institute in Prague.

Dr. Ján Štiavnický is an internal judicial adviser at the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic since 2004, where he supported the drafting of many decisions of the Court. He obtained his PhD at the Charles University in Prague in 2006. He has published regularly on issues pertaining to constitutional adjudication and participated at international conferences. Between 2014—2017, he lectured future advocates about the petitions on the Constitutional Court. For six years, he worked as a liaison officer with the Venice Commission.

Judge Martin Vernarský graduated at the Faculty of Law of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice in 2000 and in 2001, after passing the titular examination he was awarded the title of iuris utriusque doctor. In 2000, he began working as a university teacher at the Faculty of Public Administration of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice. In the pedagogical and research spheres he focuses on selected branches of public law, especially administrative law and financial law. In 2005, he was awarded the PhD degree in the field of administrative law at the Faculty of Law of Comenius University in Bratislava, where he was also appointed to the position of Associate Professor (docent) in 2015 after successful habilitation in the same field. From 2001 to 2014 he was a member of the Academic Senate of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice, and in the years 2002 - 2010 and 2013 - 2014 he was a member of the Academic Senate of the Faculty of Public Administration of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice. In 2014 - 2015 he held the office of Dean of the Faculty of Public Administration of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice. He is a member of the Research Council of the Faculty of Public Administration of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice (since 2006), the Research Council of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice (since 2019), the PhD Study Committee in Commercial and Financial Law at the Faculty of Law of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice (since 2011) and the PhD Study Committee in Public Policy and Public Administration at the Faculty of Public Administration of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Košice (since 2015). He worked as an external advisor to the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic until 2019. He has been invited as a lecturer on training courses for judges of the Administrative Divisions of Regional Courts and the Supreme Court of the Slovak Republic (2008, 2011 and 2016). He is the author or co-author of several monographs and university textbooks, and he has contributed to foreign and domestic legal research journals and collective volumes. He is a co-author

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of the Commentary on the Law on the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic (C. H. Beck, 2020). He was appointed a Judge of the Constitutional Court of the Slovak Republic on 10th October 2019.

Project partners

- CEELI Institute (<https://ceeliinstitute.org/>)
- Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Slovakia (<https://helcom.sk/en/home/>)
- Slovak Human Rights Olympics (www.olp.sk)
- UNESCO Chair for Human Rights Education at Comenius University in Bratislava (<https://uniba.sk/en/about/faculties-and-units/unesco-chair-for-human-rights-education/>)

About

Talking Courts aims to contribute to engaging with the practices and challenges of contemporary judiciary in Slovakia towards a broad audience. Courts are often perceived as isolated from the broader society their decisions less visible than those of the executive or the legislature. Yet, they decisively influence democracy by their mandate to resolve conflicts without allowing the regime to plunge into autocracy. By creating a platform for official and informal interaction between judges and various public constituencies and by developing educational materials for university students on the role of judiciaries in democratic regimes, *Talking Courts* will raise awareness on judges as public figures who are key participants of modern democracy.

Website: <https://fphil.uniba.sk/en/talkingcourts/>.