

# Political Imagination and Utopian Energies in Central and Eastern Europe

13th CEE Forum of Young Legal, Political and Social Theorists Conference

# Program

**Venue address:** Faculty of Law, Charles University, nám. Curieových 7, 110 00 Praha  
**ROOM 214 – Stream 1:** Utopia and legal/political/social theory  
**ROOM 231 – Stream 2:** Central Europe: past, present, future

## THURSDAY

**Registration: 8:30 – 9:30 (Room 38)**

### Keynote speech

**9:30 – 10:45 (Room 103)**

Albena Azmanova (University of Kent): Shy dreams and ambitious pragmatism: recovering the historical residues of 1989

**Coffee break: 10:45 – 11:00 (Room 38)**

### Panel 1

**(Post)modern condition 11:00 – 12:20 (Room 214)**

Filip Vostál (Czech Academy of Sciences): Social Acceleration: Five "Deflationary" Comments  
István Kevevári (National University of Public Service, Budapest): Marxism After Marxism: Deconstruction, Justice and Utopia  
Katinka Tóth (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest): „Law and Literature” as a potential teaching method for transforming attitudes in Hungarian legal education

### Panel 2

**Courts, constitutionalism, populism 11:00 – 12:20 (Room 231)**

Áron Fábián (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest): 'Independent, Democratic State Governed by the Rule of Law...': Constitutional Imagination in the Jurisprudence of the Hungarian Constitutional Court  
Karolina Kocemba (University of Wrocław): Right-Wing Constitutionalism and Women's Rights in Poland  
Piotr Załęski (Jagiellonian University, Kraków): The failed utopia of liberal legalism. How the lawmaking activity (the 1990s) of the Polish Constitutional Court has shaped the divided and hostile Polish political landscape

**Lunch break: 12:20 – 13:15 (Room 38)**

### Panel 3

**Utopian energies of the Central European past 13:15 – 14:35 (Room 214)**

Václav Rut (Charles University): Václav Havel's utopianism as a search for left governmentality  
Krzysztof Katkowski (University of Warsaw): Between Utopia and... Democracy? Finding a Legal-Utopia Paradigm in Polish Socialist Theory (Brzozowski, Petrażycki)  
Rafał Mańko (University of Amsterdam / Jagiellonian University, Kraków): The 'Self-Governing Republic': A Forgotten Utopian Vision of the Solidarność Movement of 1980-81  
Peter Čuroš (University of Oslo): Utopian plans and institutional inertia presented on Czechoslovakia in 1945-1953

### Panel 4

**Central and Eastern Europe in transition 13:15 – 14:35 (Room 231)**

Galina Yakova (Leeds Beckett University): Between the Communist Utopia and the Transition to Democracy: Bulgarian Socialist Legacy in EU Shoes? The Good, the Bad and the Ugly  
Laura Gheorghiu (Karl Franzens University Graz): The “Returning to Europe” Utopia in Central Europe  
Filip Cyuńczyk (SWPS University of Humanities and Social Sciences, Warsaw): Have one's cake and eat it: collective visions of the past as a constitutionalising factor in Central Europe in last 30 years

**Coffee break: 14:35 – 14:50 (Room 38)**

### Panel 5

**Justice, rule of law, and utopia 14:50 – 16:10 (Room 214)**

Leon van den Broeke (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam / Theologische Universiteit Kampen), Bart van Klink (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam) and Marta Soniewicka (Jagiellonian University, Kraków): The Utopia of Legality: A Comparison Between the Polish and Dutch Regulation of the Covid-19 Crisis  
Marlena Drapalska-Grochowicz (University of Silesia, Katowice): Utopian relations in law  
Petra Gúmplová (Friedrich Schiller University of Jena): Natural Resource Justice and the Advantage of Rights-based Approach

### Panel 6

**Central European narratives of identity 14:50 – 16:10 (Room 231)**

Aleksandra Barbara Samonek (Jagiellonian University, Kraków / Université catholique de Louvain): The New European Identity and Its Reception in Central and Eastern Europe  
Mirosław Michał Sadowski (McGill University): Central European Identity: A Utopian Idea or Potential Source of New Energy for the Region?  
Lukáš Lev Červinka (Charles University / Ca' Foscari University of Venice): Czech Republic's Constitutional Identity as a Narrative Constitutional Imaginary  
Márton Matyasovszky-Németh (Hungarian Academy of Sciences Centre of Excellence / Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest): Human Rights in East-Central Europe: The Last Utopia or Another Failed Reform Attempt?

### Evening lecture

**18:00 – 19:00 (Room 38)**

Jan Wollner (Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague): Utopian architecture in East-Central Europe

**Evening banquet: 19:00 – 22:00 (Foyer of the faculty building)**

# 16–17 09

## FRIDAY

**Registration: 8:30 – 9:30 (Room 38)**

### Keynote speech

**9:30 – 10:45 (Room 120)**

Gáspár Miklós Tamás: Nihilism and Régime Change in Eastern Europe

**Coffee break: 10:45 – 11:00 (Room 38)**

### Panel 7

**Utopia/dystopia and literature 11:00 – 12:20 (Room 214)**

Josef Jenčík (Comenius University in Bratislava): Legal dystopia in Franz Kafka's oeuvre  
Piotr Eckhardt (University in Wrocław / Jagiellonian University, Kraków): N-Euro News War Report - dystopian vision of the future of Central Europe in Ziemowit Szczerek's “Grey smoke or five civilized tribes”  
Marica Mišić (University of Niš): The role of law in utopian political thought

### Panel 8

**Contemporary policy issues in Central Europe 11:00 – 12:20 (Room 231)**

Attila Antal (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest / Institute of Political History): Neoliberal and Populist Constitutionalism on the Eastern Semi-Periphery  
Bartosz Kwiatkowski (Jagiellonian University, Kraków): Normality as an utopian aspiration – the concept of a “normal country” in polish political and legal discourse  
Kamil Zyzik (Jagiellonian University, Kraków): Symbolic Disorder? Harm, Value and the Common Good in Poland

### Public roundtable

**11:00 – 12:20 (Room 120)**

Roundtable about the new book by Jiří Příbán (Constitutional Imaginaries: A Theory of European Societal Constitutionalism), discussants: Petr Agha, Filip Cyuńczyk, Petra Gúmplová, Rafał Mańko and Bart van Klink

**Lunch break: 12:20 – 13:15 (Room 38)**

### Panel 9

**Question of jurisprudence 13:15 – 14:35 (Room 214)**

Paweł Lesiński (Maria Curie-Skłodowska University, Lublin): Robert von Mohl's concept of Rechtsstaat's subsidiarity and its current significance  
Sara Smyczek-Gołębiowska (University of Silesia, Katowice): Equity: a utopia or alternative but inherent element of the judiciary system?  
Marek Suska (University of Silesia, Katowice): Fake laws as a threat for legal systems – what could (and should) lawyers do with them?  
Antal Szerletics (University of Public Service, Budapest): Remarks on the defining characteristics of human rights

### Panel 10

**Constitutional imagination and historical memory 13:15 – 14:35 (Room 231)**

Noémi Nagy (University of Public Service, Budapest): Construction of national identities and utopian thinking in Austria-Hungary  
Katalin Izsák-Somogyi (Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest): Victims and/or perpetrators: The found-myths of Europe in the light of the traumas in the 20th century  
Zsuzsa Szakály (University of Szeged): Noble Aim and Modest Success - The Bosnian and Herzegovinian Constitution  
Jennifer Orlando-Salling (University of Copenhagen) and Marina Bán (University of Copenhagen): A Tale of Three (Four, Five?) Identities: Hungary & the End of Empire

...utopias are capable of opening our minds