



H Y B R I D W O R K S H O P

EU Accession to the ECHR: Procedural Hurdles and Prospects Before the ECtHR

15-16 May 2025

Workshop Opening:

15 May, 17:00 EET | 16:00 CET | 15:00 GMT

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki - Faculty of Law
Conference Hall III, Research Dissemination
Center (KEDEA), Thessaloniki, Greece

EU Accession to the ECHR: Procedural Hurdles and Prospects Before the ECtHR

In 2023, a new Draft Accession Agreement (DAA) was finalised, raising hopes that the EU will finally accede to the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). This development promises significant benefits, including enhanced access to justice for victims of human rights violations and greater accountability, as the EU will come under the scrutiny of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR). However, the accession remains a highly complex endeavour. While much scholarship has examined the structural features of the DAA, particularly the new framework designed to accommodate the EU as a unique international legal entity, little attention has been given to the procedural implications. This workshop seeks to address this gap, focusing on select procedural hurdles and prospects pertaining to litigation before the ECtHR and the enforcement of judgments after accession. Over two days, scholars and practitioners will explore these crucial yet overlooked dimensions of the EU accession to the ECHR.

15 May 2025

17:00 **Welcome message and opening remarks
on behalf of the organisers**

- Professor **Panagiotis Glavinis**, Dean and Professor of International Economic Law, Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Professor **Paris Arvanitakis**, Professor of Civil Procedure, Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

17:15 **Opening Framework Speech**

- Mr. **Christos Giakoumopoulos**, former Director General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe

17:45 – 20:00 **Panel Discussion**

Chair:

- Dr. **Vassilis Tzevelekos**, Reader in Law, School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool

Speakers:

- Dr. **Christine Bicknell**, Senior Lecturer in Public International Law, Law School, University of Exeter

**The Burden of Proof in Cases Involving EU Law after the EU's
Accession to the ECHR**

- Ms. **Zoe Bryanston-Cross**, Deputy Head, Office of the President, European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe

The Execution of Judgments against the EU and/or its Member States in Cases Involving EU Law after the EU Accession to the ECHR

- Dr. **Lize R. Glas**, Associate Professor of International and European Law, Faculty of Law, Radboud University

Unilateral Declarations and Friendly Settlements by the EU and/or its Member States in Cases Involving EU law after the EU accession to the ECHR

- Dr. **Vassilis Pergantis**, Assistant Professor of Public International Law, Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

Co-Respondent Mechanism and Proper Administration of Justice

Discussants:

- Professor **Joseph Ktenides**, Professor of EU Law, Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Mr. **David Milner**, Head of the Human Rights Intergovernmental Co-operation Division and Secretary to the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) ad hoc Negotiation Group '46+1' on the Accession of the EU to the ECHR, Council of Europe

16 May 2025

10:00 – 12:00 ***Closed Roundtable Discussion***

Chair:

- Professor **Paris Arvanitakis**, Professor of Civil Procedure, Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Participants:

- Dr. **Anastasia Kalantzi**, Teaching Fellow, Faculty of Law, Democritus University of Thrace
- Professor **Joseph Ktenides**, Professor of EU Law, Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Dr. **Vassilis Pergantis**, Assistant Professor of Public International Law, Faculty of Law, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- Dr. **Vassilis Tzevelekos**, Reader in Law, School of Law and Social Justice, University of Liverpool

The first day of the workshop will be open to the audience and hybrid.

[Register here >](#)

Event organisers:

- Professor Paris Arvanitakis
- Dr. Vassilis Pergantis
- Dr. Vassilis Tzevelekos

Organising institutions:

- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Faculty of Law
- University of Liverpool, School of Law and Social Justice, International Law and Human Rights Unit
- Lex&Forum, Sakkoulas Publications
- ECHR Law Review, Brill

Sponsors:

- Special Account for Research Funds, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- University of Liverpool, School of Law and Social Justice, International Law and Human Rights Unit

