

CCBE Event

Digital Justice and Fundamental Rights: Safeguarding the Rule of Law in a Technological Era

Date: **20 November 2026**

Location: **Council of Europe, Strasbourg**

Building: Palais de l'Europe, Room 9

Participate in person by registering on our Extranet

Participate online: [LIVESTREAMING](#)



The general moderator of the event will be CCBE Secretary-General **Simone Cuomo**.

9.00 – 09.15 | Opening remarks



Roman Završek
President of the CCBE

9.15 – 09.30 | Keynote Address

“Digitalisation of Justice and the Protection of Fundamental Rights in Europe”



Clare Ovey
Director of Human Rights, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe

“European Digital Sovereignty: Protecting Fundamental Rights in an Age of Technological Dependence”

Roundtable description: As justice systems increasingly rely on private technologies, cloud infrastructure, AI providers, and cross-border data flows, can Europe preserve its human rights framework if critical digital infrastructures and AI systems are controlled elsewhere?

Speakers



Beti Hohler
Judge at the International Criminal Court



Vasilka Sancin
Judge at the European Court of Human Rights



Jan Spoenle
Judge, Germany, and member of the working group on Cyberjustice and AI of the Council of Europe European Commission for the efficiency of justice (CEPEJ)



Moderator
Alex Tallon
First Vice-President of the CCBE

“AI in Justice Systems: Efficiency vs. Fundamental Rights?”

Roundtable description: This panel will address the growing use of artificial intelligence in judicial systems and its implications for the rule of law, judicial independence, and accountability.

Speakers



Hugh Mercer
Judge at the European Court of Human Rights



Ingrid Derveaux
Secretary-General of the European Judicial Training



Dominic Gerstberger
Chair of the CCBE IT Law Committee



Moderator
Imbi Jürgen
Second Vice-President of the CCBE

“How to communicate, protect and defend the Rule of Law in a digitalised Society”

Roundtable description: This panel will explore how the legal profession can contribute to protecting and promoting the rule of law in the digital age. It will consider how the judiciary, lawyers, and Bars and Law Societies can communicate more effectively about the importance of the rule of law, counter misleading narratives and defend the independence of the legal profession and the judiciary in the digital public space. The discussion will also examine the responsibilities of public authorities and digital platforms, and how new technologies, including artificial intelligence, should be developed and used in a manner consistent with fundamental rights, democratic values and the rule of law.

Speakers



Anna Adamska-Gallant
Judge at the European Court
of Human Rights



Jeff Lewis
Deputy Vice-President at the
Law Society of England and
Wales



Roya Sangi
Chair of the Human Rights Committee,
German Bar Association



Moderator

Noemí Alarcón Velasco
Third Vice-President
of the CCBE



Mattias Guyomar
President of the European Court of Human Rights

WEBINAR

FREE

Video-conferencing and remote hearings in cross-border justice – what European lawyers need to know

23 NOVEMBER 2026, 10:00-13:00 CET

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10:00 – 10:10 Welcome and introduction

Roman Završek, President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)

10:10 – 10:50 Videoconferencing and remote hearings in cross-border justice – the actions of the European Commission

Sveva Franco, Legal Officer, Criminal Procedural Law, DG Justice and Consumers, European Commission

10:50 – 11:30 A perspective from the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)

Alice Hamilton, Project Manager in FRA's Justice, Digital and Migration Unit

11:30 – 11:40 Coffee break

11:40 – 12:20 Simplifying cross-border judicial videoconferencing in Europe (SimpliVi project)

Sebastian Leitner, Austrian Federal Computing Centre, Austrian Ministry of Justice

12:20 – 13:00 The lawyers' perspective

Prof. Monika Szwarc, Polish lawyer, Warsaw Bar