

Human rights vs.

RULE OF LAW

12.11.2020 18:00

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International project: “Human rights in the 21st century”

Invitation to a round table titled

“Human rights vs. rule of law”

The EU integration of South East Europe is intensifying as North Macedonia and Albania are to start the accession talks either at the end of the year or in early 2021. The process of scrutiny of the respect of human rights and rule of law in the region gains new momentum. That process happens in parallel with the novelty in the functioning of the EU, which as of 2020 started publishing annual reports on the respect of Rule of law and fundamental rights not only of the candidate countries, but also of the member states of the EU. Now the traditional instruments of the Council of Europe as continental institutional guardian of human rights and democracy are further empowered by the EU mechanisms.

With a massive reform agenda looming, among the political elites in SE Europe some raise a dilemma **What Comes First – Human Rights or Rule of Law**. What would be the answer to this question, and whether this is a dilemma at all, we'll discuss with prominent experts from SEE and EU.

With our debate we want to offer space for analysis of the current trends across the region – the EU integration process which focuses on the key negotiating chapters related to the

democratic structures and rule of law, the outcome of the recent electoral processes, the on-going protests in some [SE] European countries, the ever present questions about respect minority rights, and the events related to ethnic/religious-based violence. The debate will also touch on the relevance of EU's Fundamental Rights charter.

You are cordially invited to participate in the online event on our website: www.humanrights21.eu on Thursday November 12th, starting at 6 p.m. (CET).

The round table is going to be moderated by Emil Kirjas, founder of Kirjas Global and Vice President of LI.

European Liberal Forum and Inštitut Novum

Sebastjan Pikel

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Online event schedule

Thursday, 12th November 2020

17:50 ***Online registration***

18:00 ***Welcome address***

Daniel Kaddik | ELF, director

Sebastjan Pikl | Institute Novum

18:10 ***Opening address***

Astrid Thors | LI Chair of Human Rights Committee, Finnish Minister of Migration and Europe (2007 – 2011), OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (2013 – 2016)

18:20 ***Panel session: “Human rights and senior citizens”***

- Margarita Caca Nikolovska | International Judge at the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonian Judge on the ECHR (1998 – 2008)

20:00

Tobias Flessenkemper | Head of the Belgrade Office, Council of Europe

Markus Löning | Managing Director, Löning – Human Rights & Responsible Business, German Federal Human Rights Commissioner (2010 – 2013)

Vesna Pusić | Sociologist and politician, Croatian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs (2011 – 2016)

Astrid Thors | LI Chair of Human Rights Committee, Finnish Minister of Migration and Europe (2007 – 2011), OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (2013 – 2016)

Moderator: Emil Kirjas, founder, Kirjas Global, Vice President, LI

20:00 ***End of the event***

**Human
rights**

IN THE 21ST CENTURY