

Conference

Shut the SLAPP UP !

Friday 14th November 2025 - 13:00 > 16:00

Speakers:

Prof. Em. Dirk Voorhoof, *University of Ghent / Human Rights Centre and Legal Human Academy*

Pia Lindholm, *Deputy Head of Unit DG JUST/ European Commission*

Prof. Justin Borg-Barthet, *University of Aberdeen*

Flutura Kusari PhD, *Senior Legal Advisor, European Centre for Press and Media Freedom*

Paulina Milewska, *Researcher, European University Institute*

Leto Cariolou, *Human Rights Lawyer*

Silvia Bartolini PhD, *Associate Professor of EU Law, Université Catholique de Lille*



Amphi Pierre-Henri Simon
1A rue PL Roland, Lille

Inscription



Programme

Shut the SLAPP UP !

Université Catholique de Lille – Amphi Pierre-Henri Simon

Friday, 14 November 2025 | 13:00 – 16:00

13:00 – 13:10 **Opening & Keynote – Safeguarding Democracy in Europe: SLAPPs and the Defence of Public Participation**

Dr Silvia Bartolini

Associate Professor of EU Law, Co-Director of the LLB in European and International Law Studies Programme, Université Catholique de Lille

13:10 – 13:25 **Understanding SLAPPs: Origins, Definition, and Legislative Journey**

Professor Justin Borg-Barthet

Head of the School of Law, University of Aberdeen

13:25 – 13:40 **EU Institutional Perspective: Status Quo and Next Steps**

Pia Lindholm

Deputy Head of Unit, DG JUST, European Commission

13:40 – 13:55 **Council of Europe Perspective: Monitoring, Standards, and Regional Focus**

Dr Flutura Kusari

Legal Advisor, European Centre for Press and Media Freedom (ECPMF)

13:55 – 14:10 **Break**

- 14:10 – 14:25** **National Implementation Case Study: Belgium**

Professor Emeritus Dirk Voorhoof
Ghent University & European Centre for Press and Media Freedom
- 14:25 – 14:40** **Defending Victims of SLAPPs: A Practitioner's Perspective**

Leto Cariolou
Lawyer, Media Defence & Human Rights Advocate (Cyprus/Greece)
- 14:40 – 14:55** **SLAPPING Judges into Silence: Hungary and Poland**

Paulina Mileska
Researcher, European University Institute (EUI)
- 14:55 – 15:25** **Panel Discussion – Integrating Frameworks, Strengthening Defences**

Moderator: Marina Danielyan (*Université Catholique de Lille*)
Participants: *Student Representatives & All Speakers*
- 15:25 – 15:45** **Questions from the Floor**

Open discussion and exchange with participants
- 15:45 – 16:00** **Closing Remarks**

Dr Audrey Gradatour
Associate Professor in International Law, Co-Director of the LLB in European and International Law Studies Programme, Université Catholique de Lille

Access plan



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