

# Conference

# Governing Asylum at the EU External Borders

## *The Transformation of Border Governance under the New Pact on Migration and Asylum*

Thursday 23 April 2026 - 9:00 > 16:30  
Friday 24 April 2026 - 10:00 > 12:30

### Scientific direction

**Dr. Silvia BARTOLINI**, Associate Professor in EU law,  
Co-director LLB Programme EU and International Law Studies  
(Licence de Droit Européen bilingue) - Faculty of Law/C3RD

**Pr. Revekka-Emmanouela PAPAPOULOU**,  
Professor of EU Law

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

**Sian DONKERS**, PhD candidate in EU Asylum law Scuola  
Superiore di Sant'Anna



National and Kapodistrian  
University of Athens  
Akademias 45



# Programme

Thursday 23 April 2026 - 9:00 > 16:30

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9:30 – 10:00 OPENING REMARKS

**Rebecca-Emmanouela Papadopoulou**

*Professor of European Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), Greece*

**Sarah Durelle Marc**

*Dean of the Law Faculty, Université Catholique de Lille, France*

**Phil Worthington**

*Managing Director, European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL), Greece*

10:00 – 11:15

PANEL I

**NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATIONS OF SCREENING AND BORDER ASYLUM PROCEDURES AT EXTERNAL BORDERS**

Chair and discussant:

**Sian Donkers**

*PhD Candidate in EU law Scuola Superiore di Sant'Anna, Italy*

Speakers:

**Italy's Border Regime ahead of the EU Pact: the Extraterritorial Turn and the Right to Liberty**

**Eleonora Celoria**

*Lawyer, Post-doc Università Studi di Torino, Italy*

**Denial of Protection in Hungary: Challenges at the EU External Border**

**Anikó Bakonyi**

*Director, Refugee Programme, Hungarian Helsinki Committee Budapest, Hungary*

**Challenges in Reception and Asylum Procedures in Greece: Observations from the Field?**

**Chrysoula Archontaki and Christina Voulimenea**

*European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL), Greece*

11:15 – 11:45

BREAK

11:45 – 12:30

PANEL II  
CRISIS NARRATIVES AND EU BORDER GOVERNANCE

Chair and discussant:

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**Anastasios Brakatsoulas**

*Researcher and Teaching Assistant, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece*

Speakers:

**The Codification of the Performativity of “Instrumentalised Migration”. Migration in Times of Crisis: Legal Insights and Humanitarian Challenges**

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**Sian Donkers**

PhD Candidate in EU law Scuola Superiore di Sant’Anna, Italy

**Responding to migration instrumentalization pressure: fair human rights standards under the New Pact on Migration and Asylum?**

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**Ketevan Khutsishvili**

*Professor in International Law, Director, International Criminal Law Centre, Tbilisi State University, Georgia*

12:45 – 14:00

LUNCH BREAK

14:00 – 16:00

PANEL III  
OPERATIONAL PRACTICES AND BORDER CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Chair and discussant:

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**Metaxia Kouskouna**

*Professor in EU law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece*

Speakers:

**Finding the balance between effective migration management and safeguarding human rights under the New Pact on Migration and Asylum**

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**Ioanna Theodoropoulou**

*Legal Advisor EUAA-MoMA, Greece*

## **The Role of EU Agencies in the New Pact and the Protection of Defence Rights**

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**Agostina Pirrello**

*PhD Candidate in EU Asylum Law, Utrecht University, The Netherlands*

## **Migration in Calais: Bypassing Asylum in France to Reach the United Kingdom - Legal Challenges and Responses**

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**Ioannis Panoussis**

*Professor in International Law, Université Catholique de Lille, France*

## **Pullbacks in the English Channel: French Border Practices and the Transformation of Control**

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**Silvia Bartolini**

*Associate Professor in EU Law, Université Catholique de Lille, France*

**16:00 - 16:30** OPEN DISCUSSION

**Friday 24 April 2026** - 10:00 > 12:30

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**10:00 - 12:30** CONCLUDING EVENT - LEGAL CLINIC

**10:00 - 11:00** PANEL IV  
LEGAL CLINIC OF THE MASTER IN HUMAN RIGHTS, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT - UNIVERSITÉ CATHOLIQUE DE LILLE, FRANCE

**Chair and discussant:**

**Aniko Bakonyi**

*Director, Refugee Programme, Hungarian Helsinki Committee Budapest, Hungary*

**Silvia Bartolini**

*Associate Professor of EU Law, Université Catholique de Lille, France*

**Sian Donkers**

*PhD Candidate in EU law Scuola Superiore di Sant'Anna, Italy*

Speakers:

**Screening at the EU External Border and the Risk of De Facto Detention**

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**Leonider Opande and Megi Tymi**

*Université Catholique de Lille, France*

**Age Assessment as a Gateway to Child Protection : Does the New Pact Ensure the Best Interests of the Child for Unaccompanied Minors?**

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**Louise Coupez, Léonore Dubost and Mélanie Morel**

*Université Catholique de Lille, France*

**11:00 - 12:00**    OPEN DISCUSSION

**12:00 – 12:30**    CLOSING REMARKS

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**Rebecca-Emmanouela Papadopoulou**

*Professor of European Law, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), Greece*

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**Silvia Bartolini**

*Associate Professor of EU Law, Université Catholique de Lille, France*

# List of Participants

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**Agostina Pirello**

*Ph.D. Candidate in EU Law*

*Utrecht University, The Netherlands*

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**Aniko Bakonyi**

*Director of the Refugee Program*

*Hungarian Helsinki Committee Budapest, Hungary*

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**Christina Voulimenea**

*Legal Coordinator*

*European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL), Greece*

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**Chrysoula Archontaki**

*Legal Coordinator*

*European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL), Greece*

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**Ketevan Khutsishvili**

*Professor in International Law; Director, International Criminal Law Center*

*Tbilisi State University, Georgia*

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**Eleonora Celoria**

*Lawyer and Post-doc Researcher in EU Asylum law*

*Universita degli Studi di Torino, Italy*

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**Ioanna Theodoropoulos**

*Legal Advisor EUAA-MoMA*

*MA National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece*

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**Ioannis Panoussis**

*Professor of International Law*

*Universite Catholique de Lille, France*

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**Metaxia Kouskouna,**

*Professor of EU law*

*National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece*

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*Managing Director*

*European Lawyers in Lesvos (ELIL)*

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**Rebecca-Emmanouela Papadopoulou**

*Professor of EU Law*

*National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), Greece*

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**Sarah Durelle-Marc**

*Dean of the Faculty of Law - Associate Professor of EU Law  
Universite Catholique de Lille, France*

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**Sian Donkers**

*Lawyer and Ph.D. Candidate in EU Asylum Law  
Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Italy*

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**Silvia Bartolini**

*Associate Professor of EU Law  
Universite Catholique de Lille, France*

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Student participants in the Legal Clinic  
Masters in Human Rights, Security and Development  
*Universite Catholique de Lille, France*

**Leonider Opande**

**Megi Tymi**

**Louise Coupez**

**Léonore Dubost**

**Mélanie Morel**



Studiographic (CL) - Avril 2026

## Infos Pratiques :

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