



**MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT**  
FÜR AUSLÄNDISCHES ÖFFENTLICHES RECHT  
UND VÖLKERRECHT

# **European Society at the Crossroads of Disciplines, Politics and Imaginaries**

**March 11 – 13, 2026**

**Organizers**

**Loïc Azoulay**

**Armin von Bogdandy**

**Silvia Steininger**

Max Planck Institute for Comparative  
Public Law and International Law  
Im Neuenheimer Feld 535  
69120 Heidelberg

# PROGRAMME

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

14.00 h      Arrival & Welcome Coffee

14.15 h      Welcome

Armin von Bogdandy & Silvia Steininger

14.30 h      **Panel 1: European Society: Basic Understandings**

Chair: Silvia Steininger

- Loïc Azoulay presents “On the Meaning and Promise of European Society” (Armin von Bogdandy)  
*Comments by Frank Schorkopf and Jan-Philipp Geis*
- Armin von Bogdandy presents “European Society and its Law: EU Law in Light of Social Theory” (Loïc Azoulay)  
*Comment by Oliver Gerstenberg*

16.00 h      Coffee Break

16.30 h      **Panel 2: Hegelian Understandings**

Chair: Max Noll

- Alexander Somek presents “Do hierarchies embedded in EU Law prevent a Hegelian mutual recognition?” (Ana Bobić)  
*Comment by Julia Christ*

- Ana Bobić presents “Hegel and European Society”  
(Alexander Somek)  
*Comment by Matthias Goldmann*

18.00 h      Closing Day 1

19.30 h      Dinner  
Kulturbrauerei Heidelberg  
Leyergasse 6  
69117 Heidelberg

## Thursday, March 12, 2026

09.00 h Welcome Coffee

09.15 h **Panel 3 European Society: Approaches from the Social Sciences**

Chair: Franca Feisel

- Poul Kjær presents “The Political Sociology of European Society” (Vincent Gengnagel)  
*Comment by Hans-Wolfgang Micklitz*
- Vincent Gengnagel presents “The European Constitution of Political Economies” (Poul Kjær)  
*Comment by Martin Höpner*

10.45 h Coffee Break

11.15 h **Panel 4: European Society: Spatial Perspectives**

Chair: Franca Feisel

- Marlene Tiede presents “EU Values and the Place of European Society: An External-Focused Account” (Toni Marzal)  
*Comment by Christophe Hillion*

12.00h Group picture

12.45 h Lunch

13.45 h      **Panel 5: European Society: The Role of Values**

Chair: Vanessa Vanegas

- Barbara Randazzo “Can European Values Shape a European Identity and a European Society?” (Lucia Rossi)  
*Comment by Joana Mendes*
- Lucia Rossi presents “The Role of the European Court of Human Rights in Defining European Society” (Barbara Randazzo)  
*Comment by Chiara Gentile*

15.15 h      Coffee Break

15.45 h      **Panel 6: European Society: Social Integration**

Chair: Jasper Siegert

- Silvia Steininger presents “From the *société Européenne* to the European Society of Constitutional Law” (Ferdinand Weber)  
*Comment by Martijn van den Brink*
- Ferdinand Weber presents “Decolonising European Society” (Silvia Steininger)  
*Comment by Antoine Vauchez*

17.15 h      Closing Day 2

18.30 h      Dinner  
Restaurant zum Achter  
Neuenheimer Landstraße 3A  
69120 Heidelberg

## Friday, March 13, 2026

09.00 h      Welcome Coffee

9.15 h      **Panel 7: European Society: Broadening  
the Field**

Chair: Jasper Siegert

- Costanza Margiotta presents “European Society in European Administrative Law” (Giacinto della Cananea)  
*Comment by Andreas Knecht*
- Giacinto della Cananea presents “The Role of EU Citizenship in Defining European Society” (Costanza Margiotta)  
*Comment by Luke Dimitrios Spieker*

10.45 h      Coffee Break

11.00 h      **Panel 8: European Society: The Way  
Forward in Commission v Hungary**

Chair: Armin von Bogdandy

- Discussion of AG opinion in C-769/22 by  
Tamara Čapeta and Luke Dimitrios Spieker

12.30 h      Lunch

13.30 h      **Concluding Discussion on Future Plans**

- Verfassungsblog Symposium on Commission v Hungary (European Society focus)
- European Society and Public/Private Law

15.00 h      End

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