

## Being citizen of a European republic – responsibility and opportunity

### *Chair*

**Prof. Ulrike Guérot** (Danube University Krems)

**Dr. Elisabeth Donat** (Danube University Krems)

The current debate about the crisis of the European Union and/or the European continent has induced a variety of scenarios about Europe's future. Most prominent and heavily discussed are Jean Claude Juncker's five scenarios about more or less integration in the European Union. Even more controversial are ideas of a *different* Europe as suggested by, amongst others, Ulrike Guérot's recent publications on the concept of a "European Republic." Labelled utopian by some, it has equally been received as a realistic "exit strategy" from the simplistic more or less paradigm.

Our panel addresses the concept of a "European Republic" and will focus on the citizens' perspective: What would it mean to be a citizen of the "European Republic"? Could we expect approval of European citizens for such a political and societal system? Which opportunities and responsibilities can be expected for citizen's daily life in a "European Republic"? Which duties and rights can citizens of a "European Republic" expect? Will the so-called "civil society" change under a new paradigm of a common European Republicanism? Which changes can be expected in the sector of the welfare state? Which challenges will the educational sector face? What would it mean to the European Youth to be a citizen of a "European Republic", and how is citizenship in a "European Republic" perceived from "outside": as a precious and desirable good or as an arbitrary label? Are there any lessons learned about organizing the life of citizens in a "European Republic" from "outside" (non-European continents)? Which enemies (literary in terms of attitudes and values and manifest in terms of groups) could citizens of a European Republic face?

The panel invites speakers who focus on the above questions from various perspectives by addressing social, economic, political and legal challenges of a potential fundamental reorganization of the European Community in terms of Republicanism. Empirical papers and theoretical considerations are welcomed equally. Contributions may both, focus on the current situation of the European Union/European continent (status quo and pre-conditions of a European Republic), or analyse one or many of the several sub-dimensions of a prospective European Republic from a citizen's perspective. The research questions of this panel also allow interdisciplinary contributions, which we strongly encourage. Contributions from young scientists are particularly welcome.

### ***Possible speakers (tbc)***

**László Andor** (Corvinus University Budapest): European Unemployment Insurance

**Stefan Collignon** (Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies, Pisa): Reorganisation of Public Goods

**Armin von Bogdandy** (Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law): The European Republic as a Legal Community

**Christine Dimroth** (University of Münster): Linguistic and emotional acceptance of a "European republic" from a citizen's perspective

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