



ELI Members'

Day

EUROPEAN
LAW
INSTITUTE





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ELI Members' Day

Twelve years after the ELI Inaugural Congress in Paris, I can still feel its enthralling atmosphere. I am delighted to see how this spirit has fuelled the institute's growth and the completion of several very ambitious projects. ELI's works depend upon the dedicated community of ELI members across Europe. Let us celebrate them during this first Member's Day!

1 June marks the establishment of ELI. This year, ELI will be celebrating its 12th anniversary.

ELI's history, as outlined in pages 4–5, and its growth have been remarkable. It has expanded from an organisation of 52 Founding Individuals and 4 Founding Institutional Members (page 8) to 1,617 and 139 members respectively. Since its establishment, ELI has completed 23 projects and 13 similar initiatives and as a result has grown in stature. Despite that, it can safely be said that ELI has preserved its unique culture, underpinned by a respect for a diverse range of personalities, reflecting the richness of the legal traditions, legal disciplines and vocational frameworks found throughout Europe and beyond.

ELI owes its reputable place in the field of law today to its members, the various individuals that contributed to its projects, its staff and financial backers. On 1 June 2023, however, it is the foresight and determination of ELI's Founding Members, others that have walked with it since its early days and those that give beyond the call, that we wish to celebrate. Their continuous support and generosity are greatly appreciated, so much so that we created a special day to acknowledge them and ELI's broader patrons: ELI Members' Day.

The tradition of ELI Members' Day starts here. It will be a day of looking back at ELI's achievements and impact, and the individuals that have supported it from its very inception, as well as of looking forward in a bid to stimulate European legal development in emerging legal fields. Just as it was the voices of our members that shaped the past, it is also they to whom we will turn to suggest topics for our Members' day Webinar on emerging trends.



Pascal Pichonnaz
President of the European Law
Institute



Börse, Seat of the ELI Secretariat
by ©Tina Herzl for Moodley

ELI's History

The ELIA and EUI Initiatives

In Europe, the idea of founding a European Law Institute had been in discussion for more than a decade. Two main initiatives were launched.

In October 2008, a group of scholars from leading European law schools and research institutes convened in Brussels to discuss the project. Follow-up meetings took place in Prague, Amsterdam, Stockholm and Frankfurt. In March 2010, the Association for a European Law Institute (ELIA) was founded, which served to initiate and coordinate a Europe-wide debate. By 2011, the ELIA had around 250 members, academics from more than 100 European law faculties as well as judges, many of them from Member States' supreme courts, and legal professionals.

An independent initiative towards the foundation of a European Law Institute was taken by the Robert Schuman Centre for Advanced Studies of the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence. Four colleagues from the EUI launched a Conference in April 2010, inviting many leading figures from European institutions and networks to discuss the idea (RSCAS Policy Paper 2010/03).

The Hamburg Memorandum

Even though – or rather because – there was a great deal of overlap between the ELIA and the EUI initiatives, they came to be seen as possible competitors, which caused concern among members of the academic community. Thus, upon the invitation of Prof Dr Dr hc mult Reinhard Zimmermann, Director of the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law, a meeting was held on the premises of the Institute (in Hamburg) on 22 and 23 June 2010 in order to find out whether the two initiatives could be brought together and whether a common roadmap could be developed for the establishment of a European Law Institute, if possible in partnership with Trans Europe Experts (TEE). The discussions held in Hamburg and the consensus reached are outlined in the minutes of that meeting ([the 'Hamburg Memorandum'](#)).



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Hamburg, Shutterstock 2023

ELI's History

Towards the European Law Institute: The Vienna Memorandum

In accordance with the Hamburg Memorandum, a joint project group had been formed by the ELIA and EUI initiatives and further networks and stakeholder organisations. A first meeting of this joint project group and of observers from the European Commission was held in Vienna on 23 and 24 November 2010. The meeting was chaired jointly by the President of the Network of the Presidents of the Supreme Judicial Courts of the EU, Irmgard Griss, and by Reinhard Zimmermann. The results are summarised in the [Vienna Memorandum](#).

Three Working Groups were set up:

- Working Group I (coordinated by Fabrizio Cafaggi, Christiane Wendehorst and Sabino Cassese) would prepare a draft manifesto and a draft statute; and it would investigate and present a proposal concerning the question of the place of incorporation of ELI
- Working Group II (coordinated by Sjef van Erp, Hans Micklitz and Sir Francis Jacobs) would suggest which additional members to adopt for the Founding Committee; and it would prepare criteria for a decision on the seat of the Secretariat of ELI
- Working Group III (coordinated by Miguel Poyares Maduro, Hans Schulte-Nölke and Bénédicte Fauvarque-Cosson) would look into the question of which academic projects should be pursued by ELI; and it would prepare the Founding Congress of ELI

Meeting of the ELI Founding Committee in Athens

On 15 and 16 April 2011, the ELI Founding Committee convened in Athens upon the kind invitation of Spyridon Flogaitis, Director of the European Public Law Organisation (EPLO) and President of its Board of Directors, to debate the results submitted by the three Working Groups that had been established on the basis of the Vienna Memorandum. The discussions in Athens were again moderated by Zimmermann and Griss. Following the proposal made by Working Group I, it was decided to found ELI as an Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif (AISBL) under Belgian law. A Statute and a Manifesto for ELI were adopted and the first ELI Council was appointed. A procedure for determining the place of the ELI Secretariat was agreed upon.



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Athens, Shutterstock 2023

Looking Back at ELI's Establishment

Here is what those tasked to lay the foundation stones of ELI had to say on looking back at ELI's establishment.

Working Group I

It has been one of the greatest privileges of my life to have had the task, together with Sabino Cassese and Fabrizio Cafaggi, of coordinating the preparation of a Manifesto and Statutes for ELI. Many had been waiting for this for decades, and now it was to become a reality: laying the foundations for an organisation that would become the voice of the European legal community.



Prof Dr Christiane
Wendehorst

Working Group II

As Chair of Working Group II, I had the great pleasure of working closely with Sir Francis Jacobs, KCMG, KC, the first President of ELI. We met over lunch in Middle Temple, one of the Inns of Court in London, discussing the criteria for tenders regarding the seat of ELI. Before lunch, we had a morning coffee and while sitting in a nice café close to King's College where Sir Francis was a professor, we wrote down the criteria. Their fulfilment we considered to be crucial for the long-term stability of the Institute.



Prof Dr Sjef van Erp

Working Group III

As a member of Working Group III, which explored the question of which academic projects should be pursued by ELI and prepared the Founding Congress of ELI, I am really impressed by what has been achieved in just a little more than a decade. Who could have imagined that our discussions on a European Civil Code would lead us to the metaverse? Congratulations to ELI and the vivid community of its members.



Judge Bénédicte
Fauvarque-Cosson

Looking Back at ELI's Establishment

ELI's First President

Although not an active member of the working groups which prepared the establishment of ELI, I was kept informed about developments as the foundation date approached, since I had been selected as the first president of ELI. In Paris on 31 May 2011 at the *Conseil supérieur du notariat* I was elected president of this remarkable new body, and I then chaired the first Council meeting. We then went to the *Conseil Constitutionnel* for a grand reception. Next day was the founding Congress at the University Panthéon-Assas, followed by further ceremonies and speeches at the Sorbonne. A very full and rich founding programme!



Sir Francis Jacobs,
KCMG, QC

Speaker of ELI's Senate

A number of cities can be mentioned to indicate important milestones on the path towards the ELI Brussels, Florence, Hamburg, Vienna, Athens, and Paris. In Paris, the Institute was officially opened; many of us will remember that event on 1 June 2011. Since then, ELI has experienced impressive growth, both as far as its membership and the projects undertaken and completed are concerned. Much has been achieved. But some of the challenges that have faced ELI from the beginning remain on the agenda. I am referring, in particular, to 'the three great diversities' outlined at the Congress in Paris: the diversity of backgrounds, of disciplines, and of professions. Yet, there is one aspect in ELI's DNA transcending these diversities: its firm commitment to the rule of law.



Prof Dr Dr hc mult
Reinhard Zimmermann

Chair of ELI's Membership Committee

ELI, driven by the involvement and the commitment of its members, the dedication of the Secretariat and the shared sense of responsibility in the pursuit of its mission, has become a key global player in the international legal harmonisation scene, a catalyst for the policy debate, a forum for a plural and diverse reflection on the most groundbreaking topics, and a firm advocate of democratic values and fundamental rights.



Teresa Rodríguez de las
Heras Ballell

Founding, Enduring and Sustaining Members

As a membership organisation, ELI's existence and its strength lies in its members. Together, they reflect the excellence and richness of the legal traditions, legal disciplines and vocational frameworks found throughout Europe and beyond. On this, its 12th anniversary, ELI wishes especially to recognise the contributions of the following:

Founding Individual Members

Gianmaria Ajani	John Lord Thomas
Gabriel Alonso Landeta	Ole Lando
Carole Aubert de Vincelles	Imelda Maher
Jean-Bernard Auby	Hans Micklitz
Hugh Beale	Valentinas Mikelenas
George A Bermann	Horatia Muir-Watt
Snezhana Botusharova	Leo Netten
Fabrizio Cafaggi	Savvas Papasavvas
Remo Caponi	Denis Philippe
Marc Clément	Miguel Poiares Maduro
Georges-Albert Dal	Radim Polcak
Walter Doralt	Bernard Reynis
Bénédicte Fauvarque-Cosson	Marek Safjan
Spyridon Flogaitis	Hans Schulte-Nölke
Lech Garlicki	Reiner Schulze
Johan Gernandt	John Sorabji
Friedrich Graf Westphalen	Matthias Storme
Irmgard Griss	Christiaan Timmermans
Stefan Grundmann	Verica Trstenjak
Herwig Hofmann	Sjef van Erp
Claire Huguenin	Paul Varul
Rafael Illescas	Christian von Bar
Francis Jacobs	Christiane Wendehorst
Carmen Jerez Delgado	Reinhard Zimmermann
Rudolf Kaindl	Fryderyk Zoll
Yves Kreins	

Founding Institutional Members

The International Union of Judicial Officers (Union Internationale des Huissiers de Justice, UIHJ)
 The Council of the Notariats of the European Union (CNUE)
 The Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (Conseil des Barreaux Européens, CCBE)
 The European Land Registry Association (ELRA)

Founding, Enduring and Sustaining Members

Other Enduring Members

Hans-Jürgen Ahrens
Daphne Aichberger Beig
Guido Alpa
Ross Anderson
Rainer Arnold
Yesim M Atamer
Susanne Augenhofer
Josef Azizi
Ewa Bagińska
Elena Bargelli
Jürgen Basedow
Ricardo Bayão Horta
Daniele Bianchi
Roland Bieber
Teresa Bielska-Sobkowicz
Christopher Bisping
Uwe Blaurock
Jean-Sébastien Borghetti
Esteve Bosch
Alexandra Braun
Robert Bray
Maja Brkan
Loïc Cadiet
Alejandro Carballo
Angel Carrasco Perera
Caroline Cauffman
Christina Charalambous
Shaun Charlton
Gregor Christandl
Giovanni Comandè
Pierre-Henri Conac
Andra Cotiga
Valentina Vincenza Cuocci
Eugenia Dacoria
Jose-Maria Davo-Fernandez
Gudula Deipenbrock
Nina Dethloff
Carlos Manuel Díez Soto
Rolf Dotevall
Julien Dubarry
Alexander Egger
Horst G M Eidenmüller

Maximilian Eiselsberg
Carlos Esplugues
Alfredo Ferrante
Francesca Fiorentini
Emilia Fronczak
Henry Gabriel
Anne Birgitte Gammeljord
Irina Getman-Pavlova
Patrick Gielen
Cristina González Beilfuss
Isabel Gonzalez Pacanowska
Pierpaolo Gori
Manfred Grunanger
Kathleen Gutman
Birke Häcker
Viktoria Harsagi
Arthur Hartkamp
Dirk Heirbaut
Alexander Hellgardt
Phillip Hellwege
Sebastian Herrler
Jeremy Heymann
Jan Hoffman
Jiří Hrádek
Jan Hurdik
Marta Infantino
Giovanni Ludica
Nils Jansen
Maria Kaiafa-Gbandi
Jens Kleinschmidt
Bernhard A Koch
Berte Elen Reinertsen Konow
Peter Krebs
Stephanie Laulhe Shaelou
Stefan Leible
Peter Limmer
Brigitta Lurger
Joasia Luzak
Piotr Machnikowski
John Alasdair MacLeod
Oliver Mader
Antoine-Audoin Maggiar

Founding, Enduring and Sustaining Members

Other Enduring Members

Chantal Mak
 Renato Mangano
 Caroline Mantl
 Marcello Marinari
 Sebastian Martens
 Juan Antonio Martin Burgos
 Miquel Martin-Casals
 Carlos Martinez De Aguirre
 Raul Mendez
 Przemysław Mikłaszewicz
 Alberto Monti
 Martin Nettesheim
 Guillermo Palao-Moreno
 Radostina Parenti
 Irena Pelikanova
 Thomas Pfeiffer
 Pascal Pichonnaz
 Maud Piers
 Tobias Pinkel
 Arturo Pironti
 Jerzy Pisulinski
 Emmanuel Piwnica
 Oreste Pollicino
 Luciano Pontiroli
 Alexandra Prechal
 Jose Simeon Rodriguez Sanchez
 Ronald Rohrer
 Allan Rosas
 Moritz Röttinger
 Isabelle Rueda
 Giesela Rühl
 Helmut Satzger
 Martin Schauer
 Georg Schima
 Jessica Schmidt
 Martin Schmidt-Kessel

Erich Schwarzenbacher
 Silvana Sciarra
 Martin Selmayr
 Juliette Sénéchal
 Enrica Senini
 Mathias Siems
 Lionel Smith
 Jan Smits
 Nico Spiegel
 Radu Stancu
 Felix Steffek
 Ben Steinbrück
 Gert Straetmans
 Ferenc Szilágyi
 Antonio Tizzano
 François Trémosa
 Onofrio Troiano
 Christian Twigg-Flesner
 Gerard van der Wal
 Antoni Vaquer
 Christoph Vedder
 Lajos Vékás
 Beata Verschraegen
 Jan von Hein
 Gregory Voss
 Gerhard Wagner
 Wilhelm Warth
 Bob Wessels
 Hartmut Wicke
 Marek Wierzbowski
 Bénédict Winiger
 Krzysztof Wojtyczek
 Eddy Wymeersch
 Boštjan Zalar
 Brigitta Zöchling-Jud

Founding, Enduring and Sustaining Members

Sustaining Members

Vlatka Adler
Peter H Adler
Ross Anderson
Maria Lourdes Arastey
Marisa Almeida Araújo
Vladimir Arlović
Josef Azizi
Johannes Barbist
Elena Bargelli
Shawn Bayern
Sarah Bechaalany
Teresa Bielska-Sobkowicz
Robert Bray
Salvatore Buscema
Tomasz Chmielewski
Celina Daphne Marian Colquhoun
Ewa Katarzyna Czech
Darinka Dekleva Marguč
David Dolidze
Walter Doralt
Biljana Djuricin
Tanel Feldman
Stijn Franken
John Gaffney
Anne Birgitte Gammeljord
Paolo Ghiringhelli
Patrick Gielen
Paul Gilligan
Angelo Jr Golia
Laurence Gormley
Friedrich Graf Westphalen
Elena Gramano
Irmgard Griss
Rodger Peter Harris
Daniel M Häusermann
Diarmuid Hegarty
Christian Hertel
Hana Horak
Paola Iamiceli
Marta Infantino
Elena Ioriatti
Francisco Javier Jiménez Muñoz
Phillip Johnson
Tatjana Josipović
Hideki Kanda
Bernhard A Koch
Velibor Korać
Lance Liebman

John Lord Thomas
Piotr Machnikowski
Vanessa Mak
Corrado Malberti
Dan Marcotte QC
Jonathan McGowan
Maarten Meijer
Attila Menyhárd
Antonio Manuel Morales Moreno
Eliana Morandi
Karl-Heinz Oehler
Ali Osman Ozdilek
Tekla Papp
Bertrand Perrin
Denis Philippe
Pascal Pichonnaz
Fausto Pocar
Cristina Poncibò
Alfredo Rizzo
Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell
Nelson Rosenvald
Marc Rotenberg
Jorge Sánchez Cordero
Cayetana Santaolalla Montoya
Vyara Savova
Hugo Maria Schally
Vincent Smith
Henricus (Henk) Snijders
John Sorabji
Astrid Stadler
Felix Steffek
Ben Steinbrück
Jeffrey Stempel
Alain Strowel
Olena Terekh
Christiaan Timmermans
Ivan Tot
Sjef van Erp
Lajos Vékás
Aida Sofia von Schulman
Mislav Vukina
Steven Weise
Christiane Wendehorst
Vanessa Wilcox
Eike Wolf
Herbert Zech
Reinhard Zimmermann

European Law Institute

- Pan-European, democratic, membership-based organisation
- Uniting prominent jurists of all legal professions
- Aiming to improve the law in Europe
- Carrying out projects with immediate practical application

Members of ELI can contribute to its projects and gain access to an international network of jurists. Apart from other activities, ELI organises its Annual Conference and Meetings, bringing together Europe's leading experts in diverse fields of law.

Executive Committee

President:	Pascal Pichonnaz
First Vice-President:	Lord John Thomas
Second Vice-President:	Anne Birgitte Gammeljord
Treasurer:	Pietro Sirena
Other members:	Bénédicte Fauvarque-Cosson Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell Aneta Wiewiórowska-Domagalska

ELI in Vienna

The Secretariat of ELI, which is hosted by the University of Vienna, is located in the heart of the Austrian capital, close to the main building of the University, the representation of the European Commission in Austria as well as the information office of the European Parliament.

We cordially invite you to visit us whenever you are in Vienna.



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