

On Attacks on Judges?

The Judiciary, the Media and the Rule of Law *Interdisciplinary and Comparative Seminar Held as an Extraordinary Session of the XII ICERNA 2026 (International Conversation Euro Regio North Adriatic)*

University of Trieste, Aula Bachelet Building A - Central Building **13th of November 2026**, 10.00, and Online: [LINK ON ATT](#)

Chair

JASNA ŠEGAN, retired higher court judge, former president of the Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia, co-chair of the Advisory Group of Association of European Administrative Judges (AEAJ)

Introductory Remarks, Prof. ELISABETTA DE GIORGI, Professor of Political Science, University of Trieste

Attacks on Judges and the Relationship between the Judiciary and the Media, ALEN RAJKO, PhD, Judge, Administrative Court in Rijeka, member of the Advisory Group of the AEAJ

Populism and the Judiciary, Prof. MATTIA ZULIANELLO, Professor of Political Science, University of Trieste

"Nobody Elected You": Judicial Legitimacy and Strategies of Delegitimisation, DEBORAH DE STEFANO, Former Judge of Court of Appeal of Trieste

Public Trust in the Judicial System, Prof. LUCIANO MAURO, Professor of Economics, University of Trieste

Pressures on Judges, Professional Integrity and the Role of the Media, VALENTINA RUSTJA, Judge, Administrative Court of the Republic of Slovenia

The "Parole Ostili" Project – Hostile Words, Prof. GIOVANNI GRANDI, Professor of Moral Philosophy, University of Trieste

Between Criticism and Delegitimisation: Freedom of Expression and Judicial Independence in Europe, Prof. ANNA LUCIA VALVO, Professor of European Law, University of Catania

Criticising Judicial Decision: Where Are the Limits?, Prof. BRUNA ŽUBER, Professor of Administrative Law, University of Ljubljana (PF)

Reasoning as Legitimacy: The Duty to Give Reasons as the Judge's Answer to Delegitimisation, Prof. FRANCESCO F. TUCCARI, Professor of Administrative Law, University of Salento

The Independence of Administrative Judges, Prof. DARIO ĐERĐA, Professor of Administrative Law, University of Rijeka – Faculty of Law (Pravri)

The Minister of Justice's Power of Inspection: Administrative Oversight and Judicial Independence, Prof. ANNARITA IACOPINO, Professor of Administrative Law, University of Trieste

The Identifiability of Power, Prof. MARCELLO M. FRACANZANI, Judge, Italian Supreme Court of Cassation

Attacks on Judges and Mutual Hypocrisies, Prof. PIER LUIGI PORTALURI, Professor of Administrative Law, University of Salento

On controlling the Italian Court of Auditors, Prof. GIACOMO BIASUTTI, Professor of Administrative Law, University of Trieste

Concluding Remarks

Prof. ANDREA CRISMANI, Professor of Administrative Law, University of Trieste