

Workshop Public Law

Ius Commune Conference 2005

Friday, 2 December (09.15 - 12.15)

Location: Pollock Halls of Residence

Buildings: John McIntyre Centre

Room: Prestonfield

Overview participants workshop

Theme: National and Sub-National Parliaments and the EU Constitutional Treaty

This workshop addresses the role of the national parliaments, as well as that of the regional parliaments, in the European Union's constitutional architecture. This topic has been steadily gaining importance in the debate on European integration, and it is now a crucial item on the agenda of European constitution-building. The purpose of the workshop is to discuss how European integration in general, and the project of the EU Constitutional Treaty in particular, affect the parliaments of the EU Member States and the parliaments on the regional level. Special attention shall be devoted to parliaments' participation in the work of the Convention, as well as to their role in the Constitutional Treaty ratification process; to the way parliaments have adapted to the new facilities and competences they anticipated to receive under the Constitutional Treaty, including the monitoring mechanism for the subsidiarity principle; and to the possible consequences of a ratification failure, including the question how Parliaments can develop scrutiny activities even in the absence of new Treaty provisions.

Chair: Dr. Philipp Kiiver (Maastricht University)

Expert panel:

Dr. Adam Cygan (University of Leicester)

The EU Constitutional Treaty from the perspective of the Parliament of the United Kingdom

Dr. Gordon Heggie (University of Strathclyde, Glasgow)

The EU Constitutional Treaty from the perspective of the Parliament of Scotland

Dr. Caitríona Carter (Europe Institute/University of Edinburgh)

First discussant on EU subsidiarity and devolution in the UK

Dr. Olaf Tans (University of Amsterdam)

The EU Constitutional Treaty from the perspective of the Parliament of the Netherlands

Mr. Wouter Pas (Belgian Council of State/University of Louvain)

The EU Constitutional Treaty from the perspective of the Federal Parliament of Belgium, also taking into account the Belgian Regional and Community Assemblies

Dr. Leonard Besselink (University of Utrecht)

The national parliaments in the European Union's multi-level constitution

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