Call for Papers

Belgian Public Law and European Union Law: Interactions, Challenges and Perspectives

A Workshop by the Young Belgian Association for European Union Law (Young BEDER)

The Young Belgian Association for European Union Law (Young BEDER) invites early-career scholars and practitioners to submit abstracts for a presentation at the upcoming workshop "Belgian Public Law and European Union Law: Interactions, Challenges and Perspectives", which will take place on 27 November 2026 in Brussels.

This domain-specific workshop will provide a platform for critical reflection on the evolving relationship between Belgian public law and European Union law. The workshop aims to explore the many ways in which EU law shapes Belgian public law, and conversely, how Belgian public law engages with, implements, challenges, or contributes to the development of EU law. It will offer a forum for young researchers to present their research and to receive feedback from senior academics and practitioners.

In recent years, fundamental questions have emerged regarding the interaction between national legal systems and the EU legal order. These questions arise across a wide range of public law fields, including constitutional law, administrative law, migration and asylum law, tax law, environmental law, social law, and the protection of fundamental rights. They also concern institutional and constitutional issues, such as judicial dialogue between national courts and the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), the role of national constitutional identity, and the limits of EU competences in politically sensitive areas such as defence and the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP).

The PhD workshop invites submissions that critically engage with these issues from doctrinal, socio-legal, comparative, or interdisciplinary perspectives. Early-career scholars and practitioners are encouraged to explore how EU law and Belgian public law interact and mutually shape one another.

Theme

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- The influence of EU law on Belgian constitutional and administrative law;
- The implementation and enforcement of EU law in Belgium;
- Judicial dialogue between Belgian courts, constitutional courts, and the CJEU;
- National constitutional identity and its role in EU law;
- Fundamental rights protection in Belgian and EU law;
- Migration, asylum and citizenship in Belgian and EU law;
- Tax law, competition law, environmental law, or social law in the Belgian and EU context;
- The competences of the CJEU in politically sensitive areas, including defence and CFSP;
- Broader reflections on the tensions between integration and sovereignty in the EU legal order.

This list of topics is not exhaustive. Contributions addressing the main theme from different perspectives, disciplines, or methodological approaches are also welcome.

Publication and prize(s)

Selected participating authors will have the opportunity to publish their papers in a peer-reviewed journal or edited book following the workshop.

One or more prizes will be awarded to the best paper(s). The winner(s) will be offered the opportunity to undertake a traineeship at the Belgian Constitutional Court.

The winner(s) may also be invited to present their paper at a subsequent event organised by the Belgian Association for European Law (BEDER).

Guidelines for submission

Contributions should include:

- A title and abstract (max 500 words) including at least the problem definition and envisaged method;
- The author's name and affiliation;
- Whether you would like to be considered for publication following the conference.

Contributions can be submitted by researchers who are members or are eligible for Young BEDER membership and can be presented in English, French or Dutch. They should be sent to young@beder.be by **15 June 2026**, along with the author's CV.

The scientific committee will inform the selected applicants in the weeks following their submission whether their abstract is selected. Those whose abstracts are selected for the conference will be required to submit a full paper of 8,000 to 10,000 words by **15 September 2026**.

There is no registration fee to attend the PhD Workshop, but Young BEDER membership is required. Subject to available funding and upon request, Young BEDER may be able to cover travel expenses and, where necessary, accommodation for selected speakers who do not have other sources of funding.

More information on BEDER membership here:
https://www.beder.be/language/en/membership/