



# **European Society at the Crossroads of Disciplines, Politics, and Imaginaries**

**March 11 – 13, 2026**

## **Organizers**

**Loïc Azoulay**  
**Armin von Bogdandy**  
**Silvia Steininger**

Max Planck Institute  
for Comparative Public Law  
and International Law  
Im Neuenheimer Feld 535  
69120 Heidelberg

# PROGRAMME

## Wednesday, March 11, 2026

14.00 h      Arrival & Welcome Coffee

14.15 h      Welcome

Armin von Bogdandy & Silvia Steininger

14.30 h      **Panel 1:**  
**European Society: Basic Understandings**

Chair: Silvia Steininger

- Loïc Azoulay presents  
“On the Meaning and Promise of  
European Society”  
(Armin von Bogdandy)

*Comments by Frank Schorkopf  
and Jan-Philipp Geis*

- Armin von Bogdandy presents  
“European Society and its Law: EU Law  
in Light of Social Theory” (Loïc Azoulay)

*Comment by Oliver Gerstenberg*

16.00 h      Coffee Break

16.30 h

**Panel 2:  
Hegelian Understandings**

Chair: Max Noll

- Alexander Somek presents  
“Do hierarchies embedded in EU Law  
prevent a Hegelian mutual recognition?”  
(Ana Bobić)

*Comment by Julia Christ*

- Ana Bobić presents  
“Hegel and European Society”  
(Alexander Somek)

*Comment by Matthias Goldmann*

18.00 h

Closing of Day 1

19.30 h

Dinner

Kulturbrauerei Heidelberg  
Leyergasse 6  
69117 Heidelberg

## Thursday, March 12, 2026

09.00 h Welcome Coffee

09.15 h **Panel 3:  
European Society:  
Approaches from the Social Sciences**

Chair: Franca Feisel

- Poul Kjær presents  
“The Political Sociology of  
European Society”  
(Vincent Gengnagel)

*Comment by Hans-Wolfgang Micklitz*

- Vincent Gengnagel presents  
“The European Constitution  
of Political Economies”  
(Poul Kjær)

*Comment by Martin Höpner*

10.45 h Coffee Break

11.15 h **Panel 4:  
European Society: Spatial Perspectives**

Chair: Franca Feisel

- Marlene Tiede presents  
“EU Values and the Place of European Society: An External-Focused Account”  
(Toni Marzal)

*Comment by Christophe Hillion*

12.00 h      Group picture

12.45 h      Lunch

13.45 h      **Panel 5:**  
**European Society: The Role of Values**

Chair: Vanessa Vanegas

- Barbara Randazzo presents  
“Can European Values Shape a European Identity and a European Society?”  
(Lucia Rossi)

*Comment by Joana Mendes*

- Lucia Rossi presents  
“The Role of the European Court of Human Rights in Defining European Society”  
(Barbara Randazzo)

*Comment by Chiara Gentile*

15.15 h      Coffee Break

15.45 h

**Panel 6:  
European Society: Social Integration**

Chair: Jasper Siegert

- Silvia Steininger presents  
“From the société Européenne to the  
European Society of Constitutional Law”  
(Ferdinand Weber)

*Comment by Martijn van den Brink*

- Ferdinand Weber presents  
“Decolonising European Society”  
(Silvia Steininger)

*Comment by Antoine Vauchez*

17.15 h

Closing of Day 2

18.30 h

Dinner

Restaurant zum Achter  
Neuenheimer Landstraße 3A  
69120 Heidelberg

## Friday, March 13, 2026

09.00 h Welcome Coffee

09.15 h **Panel 7:**  
**European Society: Broadening the Field**

Chair: Jasper Siegert

- Costanza Margiotta presents  
“European Society in European  
Administrative Law”  
(Giacinto della Cananea)

*Comment by Andreas Knecht*

- Giacinto della Cananea presents  
“The Role of EU Citizenship in Defining  
European Society”  
(Costanza Margiotta)

*Comment by Luke Dimitrios Spieker*

10.45 h Coffee Break

11.00 h **Panel 8:**  
**European Society: The Way Forward in  
Commission v Hungary**

Chair: Armin von Bogdandy

- Discussion of AG opinion in C-769/22 by Tamara Čapeta and Luke Dimitrios Spieker
- 12.30 h      Lunch
- 13.30 h      **Concluding Discussion on Future Plans**
- Verfassungsblog Symposium on Commission v Hungary (European Society focus)
  - European Society and Public/Private Law
- 15.00 h      End

## Contact

**Dr. Silvia Steininger**

**Max Planck Institute  
for Comparative Public Law  
and International Law**

Im Neuenheimer Feld 535  
69120 Heidelberg

Phone: +49-(0)6221-482 1  
Email: [steininger@mpil.de](mailto:steininger@mpil.de)