

## **Workshop:**

### **Imposing Immutability or Change before the European Court of Human Rights**

Academy for European Human Rights Protection (UniCologne), 20-21 November 2025

Wienandhaus library 3rd floor (Weyertal 59, Cologne)

12:00 - 13:30 **Welcome Lunch**

13:30 - 14:00 **Setting the tone**

14:00 - 16:00 **Panel 1: Conditional Recognition: Assimilation and Identity in European Human Rights Law**

**Moderator:** Joseph Finnerty (University of Leiden)

- **The Immutability Paradigm: Religion, Identity, and Equality before the ECtHR and the CJEU** – Cathérine Van de Graaf (Ghent University and Academy for European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne) and Beril Önder (Academy for European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne)
- **Stereotypes on Parenthood – Discrimination framed as Choice** – Sophie Girardini (Academy for European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne)
- **The Law Says, The Law Is: Trans Narratives and the European Court of Human Rights** – Sandra Duffy (University of Bristol)
- **Suppressing the expression of minority identity before the European Court – are minority rights human rights or states' rights?** (Janos Fiala-Butora, University of Galway) - ONLINE

16:00 - 16:30 **Coffee break**

16:30 - 18:00 **Panel 2: Judging Rights-Holders: Narratives of Scarcity, Obligation, and Immutability**

**Moderator:** Cathérine Van de Graaf

- **The ECtHR's Scales of Rights and Duties: A Critical Examination through Migration, Climate Change, and Vaccination** – Esra Demir-Gürsel (Hertie School)
- **More Vulnerable than Thou? Scarcity Narratives and Hierarchies of Affectedness** – Corina Heri (Tilburg University)
- **Defining "Age" as a ground of Discrimination in European Non-Discrimination Law: Changing and Challenging Immutability** – Elaine Dewhurst (University of Manchester) - ONLINE

19:00 - 20:00 **Dinner**

09:00 - 11:00 **Panel 3: Immutability, Deservingness, and the Limits of Protection**

**Moderator:** Beril Önder

- **Divide et impera: Legal categorisation and migrants' rights under the ECHR** – Moritz Baumgärtel (University College Roosevelt and South-West University Blagoevgrad)

- **Race Immutability and Racial Distortion at the European Court of Human Rights** – Vandita Khanna (Academy for European Human Rights Protection, University of Cologne)
- **Poverty and Deservingness before the Strasbourg Court: An Injunction to Immutable Misery** – Sarah Ganty (Yale Law School and UCLouvain)
- **Socio-economic discrimination in the Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights** – Amalie Frese (iCourts, University of Copenhagen) - ONLINE

11:00 - 12:00 **Keynote speech by Meghan Campbell** (Birmingham Law School, University of Birmingham)

12:00 - 12:15 **Concluding Thoughts / Future Plans**

12:15 - 13:00 **Lunch**



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