IALS/WFD Digital Conference:


Thursday 10 September 2020, 09:00 – 17:00 h. (UK time)

Conference schedule

9:00 – 10:15: First plenary session: COVID-19 – a challenge to democratic systems across continents

Welcome remarks
- Anthony Smith, CEO, Westminster Foundation for Democracy
- Constantin Stefanou, Director, Sir William Dale Center for Legislative Studies, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (University of London)

Chairperson: Constantin Stefanou, Director, Sir William Dale Center for Legislative Studies, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (University of London)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speakers</th>
<th>Title of paper to be presented at the conference</th>
<th>Geographical scope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Maria Díaz Crego and Silvia Kotanidis, European Parliament Research Service</td>
<td>States of emergency in response to the coronavirus crisis and parliamentary control: developments in EU Member States</td>
<td>EU</td>
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<td>2 Alex Read, Democratic governance practitioner</td>
<td>Risks to Democracy from Surveillance Technologies: Implications in the Global South</td>
<td>Global, transition countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Sarah Moulds, University of South Australia</td>
<td>Democratic scrutiny of COVID-19 laws: Are Parliamentary Committees Up to the Job?</td>
<td>Scottish Parl., UK, Australia and NZ.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10:30 – 12:00 h.: Second plenary session: Protection of human rights and rule of law

Chairperson: Franklin De Vrieze, Senior Governance Adviser WFD

4 Sonia Palmieri and Sarah Childs, Australian National University and Royal Holloway, University of London | Patience ladies: Gender Sensitive Parliamentary Responses in a Time of Crisis | Global |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Author(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Victoria Jennett, Independent Consultant Justice Reform</td>
<td>Emergency release of people from prison because of Covid-19, and the effect on rule of law and democracy</td>
<td>UK, US, Turkey, Indonesia, Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Carmelina Sessa, Bar Association of Nocera Inferiore</td>
<td>Coronavirus, effects on rule of law: how fundamental rights live with mass surveillance technologies in democratic systems – an analysis of Europe and Italy in a global view</td>
<td>Europe and Italy</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kate Doust and Sam Hastings, Legislative Council of Western Australia</td>
<td>Legislative scrutiny in times of emergency: A case study of Australian parliaments</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**12:15 – 13:30: Break-out groups in thematic sessions**

**Group 1: Principles of scrutiny**
Chairperson: Sophia Fernandes, Senior Adviser Political Inclusion WFD
Rapporteur: Victoria Hasson, Senior Parliamentary Adviser WFD

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Samantha Davey, University of Essex</td>
<td>The Coronavirus Act 2020 and Guidance Governing Social Relationships and Communication: An Orwellian Dystopia or a Protective Bubble?</td>
<td>UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Emiliano Frediani, University of Pisa</td>
<td>Public Administration and precautionary approach in the Italian answer to Covid-19</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sean Molloy, Northumbria University</td>
<td>Approach with Caution: Sunset Clauses as Safeguards of Democracy?</td>
<td>Global / UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Andrea Cullen, Legislative Assembly Canberra</td>
<td>Isolating Parliament and the People from budget scrutiny and oversight - suspending democratic practices in the fight against COVID–19? Some case studies from Australian jurisdictions</td>
<td>Australia</td>
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**Group 2: Scrutiny in practice**
Chairperson: Maria Mousmouti, IALS
Rapporteur: Maria Mousmouti.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Elena Griglio, Italian Senate</td>
<td>Governments as Covid-19 lawmakers in France, Italy and Spain: Continuity or Discontinuity?</td>
<td>France, Italy and Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Khimlal Devkota, Constituent Assembly Nepal</td>
<td>Case study of Post-Legislative Scrutiny of the Infectious Disease Act in Nepal</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Htar Zin Zin Ei, Lower House Myanmar</td>
<td>A forward-looking response to Covid-19 choices shaping the future in Myanmar</td>
<td>Myanmar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sossi Tatikyan Consultant, public security policy and governance reform</td>
<td>The adoption, enforcement and parliamentary oversight of the state of emergency measures in Armenia in response to Covid-19</td>
<td>Armenia</td>
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<td>14:30 – 15:45: Break-out groups on country case-studies</td>
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| **Group 3: Operating between democratic fragility and special powers**  
Chairperson: Constantin Stefanou, IALS  
Rapporteur: Maria Mousmouti, IALS |
| 17 | Daniel Greenberg,  
*UK House of Commons*  
COVID in Context – Emergency Measures as a Chapter in the Development of the Rule of Law  
UK |
| 18 | Marijana Opasinova Sundovska,  
*University American College Skopje*  
The case of North Macedonia  
North Macedonia |
| 19 | Lianne van Kalken  
& Evert Stamhuis,  
*Erasmus University Rotterdam*  
Digital equals public; assembly meetings under a lockdown regime  
The Netherlands |
| 20 | David Thirlby,  
*Westminster Foundation for Democracy*  
Case study of Pakistan  
Pakistan |
| **Group 4: Between democratic oversight and democratic backsliding**  
Chairperson: Franklin De Vrieze, WFD  
Rapporteur: Graeme Ramshaw, Research & Evaluation Director WFD |
| 21 | Felipe de Paula,  
*University of São Paulo*  
Emergency Measures in Brazil: is Covid-19 fostering authoritarianism?  
Brazil |
| 22 | Kamil Kapica,  
*University of Warsaw*  
Elections and abrupt changes of the electoral law in the era of pandemics – analysis on the example of constitutional crisis in Poland  
Poland |
| 23 | Elohor Stephanie Onoge,  
*Law researcher*  
Monitoring and Evaluating the Impact (Post-Legislative Scrutiny) of Emergency Regulation in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic: A Case Study of Nigeria  
Nigeria |
| 24 | Afrim Krasniqi,  
*Albanian Institute of Political Studies*  
Impact on democracy of emergency measures against COVID-19: the case of Albania  
Albania |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>16:00 – 17:00: Third and concluding plenary session: A global perspective and evaluation</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><strong>Chairpersons:</strong> Franklin De Vrieze, WFD and Constantin Stefanou, IALS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 25 | Joelle Grogan,  
*Middlesex University London*  
Global |

Panel discussion with rapporteurs from the break-out groups.  
- Victoria Hasson WFD  
- Maria Mousmouti IALS  
- Graeme Ramshaw WFD

Concluding remarks, incl. announcement on the *double* Special Issue of the EJLR.  
- Franklin De Vrieze WFD and Constantin Stefanou IALS