

Assises de la Justice

What role for Justice in the European Union?

(Provisional agenda)

Dates and venue: Thursday 21 and Friday 22 November 2013 in Brussels (Belgium), European Commission, Charlemagne building. Languages: DE, EN and FR.

DAY ONE

09:30 - 09:45 OPENING

The conference will be inaugurated by the President of the European Commission, Mr J.M. Barroso.

10:00 - 10:55 INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS

11:15 - 13:00 EFFECTIVE JUSTICE SYSTEMS IN THE EU

The panel will highlight the importance of effective justice systems and draw lessons from the situation and reforms in Member States. The panel will also discuss the benefits of comparing the functioning of the judicial systems of the EU Member States and issues related to out of court dispute settlement.

14:30 - 16.00 INDEPENDENCE OF JUSTICE

The independence of the justice systems is essential for the functioning of the EU. The panel will discuss the main lessons that can be drawn from recent experiences in the EU concerning the independence of the judiciary.

16:30 - 18.00 THE EU JUSTICE SCOREBOARD: TOWARDS A NEW RULE OF LAW MECHANISM?

The panel will focus on the possibility of the establishment of a new rule of law mechanism and draw on the experience of other initiatives, in particular the EU Justice Scoreboard.

DAY TWO

09:00 - 13:00 TOWARDS A MORE INTEGRATED EUROPEAN AREA OF JUSTICE BASED ON MUTUAL TRUST

Three panels will reflect on new initiatives that would further enhance mutual trust and allow the development of the European area of justice in the years to come, including the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office. The panels will successively focus on criminal law, on civil and commercial law and on administrative law.

CRIMINAL LAW

CIVIL AND COMMERCIAL LAW

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

13:00 CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions of the conference will be presented by Vice-President Ms V.Reding.